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AMERICA

A-CATHOLIC-REVIEW-OF-THE-WEEK

MAY 17, 1919

PRICE TEN CENTS

Cross Currents at Versailles

J. C. Walsh

*Staff Correspondent of "America" at the
Paris Conference*

The New York Rent Problem

"James Dawson"

A New York Legislator

The K. of C. and Scientific Employment

John B. Kennedy

Publicity Manager for the Knights of Columbus

THE AMERICA PRESS

NEW YORK CITY

AMERICA

A CATHOLIC REVIEW OF THE WEEK

SATURDAY, MAY 17, 1919

VOLUME XXI. No. 6

Published weekly by The America Press,
173 East 83rd Street, New YorkSUBSCRIPTIONS, POSTPAID:
United States, 10 cents a copy; yearly, \$3.00
Canada, \$3.50 Europe, \$4.00

CONTENTS

CHRONICLE PAGE
.....137-140

TOPICS OF INTEREST

Cross Currents at Versailles—The
New York Rent Problem—The Bel-
gian Refugees in England—The K. of
C. and Scientific Employment—A
Venetian Afternoon141-149

COMMUNICATIONS149-150

EDITORIALS

Father Hughes—The Cry of the
Tyrant—Starving Children of Yugo-
Slavia—Lynchers and Vigilantes—
Catholic Action151-153

LITERATURE

The Novels of Booth Tarkington—
Swallow Song—Reviews—Books and
Authors—Books Received153-156

EDUCATION

Catholics and Art.....157

SOCIOLOGY

"Fats and Capitalism".....157-158

NOTE AND COMMENT.....158-159

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AMERICA

A·CATHOLIC·REVIEW·OF·THE·WEEK

VOL. XXI. No. 6 }
WHOLE No. 525 }

MAY 17, 1919

{ PRICE, 10 CENTS
\$3.00 A YEAR }

Chronicle

The War.—The Treaty of Peace between the twenty-seven Allied and Associated Powers, on the one hand, and Germany, on the other, was handed to the German plenipotentiaries at Versailles, on May 7, the fourth anniversary of the sinking of the Lusitania. The treaty contains about 80,000 words and is the longest ever drawn. The document has not as yet appeared in its entirety in this country, but official abstracts of its terms were published both here and abroad immediately after it was handed to Count von Brockdorff-Rantzau, the head of the German delegation at Paris. The treaty is divided into fifteen main sections. Over 1,000 experts worked at it continually through a series of commissions for three and a half months, since January 18. It is printed in English and French. It does not deal with questions affecting Austria, Bulgaria and Turkey, except in so far as it binds Germany to accept any agreement reached with those former allies.

The preamble of the treaty names as parties, on the one hand, the United States, the British Empire, France, Italy and Japan, together with Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, China, Cuba, Ecuador, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, the Hedjaz, Honduras, Liberia, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru, Portugal, Rumania, Serbia, Siam, Czecho-Slovakia and Uruguay, who with the five countries first mentioned are described as the Allied and Associated Powers, and on the other hand Germany. Following the preamble and "deposition" of powers comes the Covenant of the League of Nations as the first section of the treaty. In the second section, the frontiers of Germany in Europe are defined. European political clauses are given in the third, and extra-political clauses in the fourth. Next are the military, naval and air terms. The sixth section deals with prisoners of war and military graves, and a seventh with responsibilities. Sections VIII to X deal with reparations, financial and economic terms. Then follow the aeronautic section, the ports, waterways and railways section, the labor covenant, the section on guarantees and the financial clauses.

By the terms of the treaty Germany restores Alsace-Lorraine, 5,600 square miles, to France, and to Belgium

two small districts between Luxemburg and Holland totaling 989 square miles; she accepts the internationalization of the Saar basin temporarily and of Danzig permanently; in addition to the territorial changes towards Belgium, and Denmark, in the case of Schleswig-Holstein, and in East Prussia, she cedes most of Upper Silesia to Poland. She renounces all territorial and political rights outside of Europe, as to her own or her allies' territory, and especially as to Morocco, Egypt, Siam, Liberia and Shantung. In the case of the alterations of her frontier towards Belgium, she is to recognize the full sovereignty of Belgium over the contested territory of Moresnet, and over part of Prussian Moresnet, and to renounce in favor of Belgium all rights over the circles of Eupen and Malmédy, the inhabitants of which are to be entitled within six months to protest against this change of sovereignty either in whole or in part, the final decision to be left to the League of Nations. Germany also recognizes the complete independence of German Austria, Czecho-Slovakia and Poland.

The German army is reduced to 100,000 men including officers. Conscription within the borders of Germany is abolished; all forts and fortifications fifty kilometers east of the Rhine are to be razed, and all importation and exportation, and nearly all production of war material are to be stopped. The exact amount of armament and munition allowed Germany is laid down in detail; all excess is to be surrendered or rendered useless. Germany is forbidden to manufacture or import poisonous, asphyxiating or other gases, and also analogous liquids; she may not manufacture such materials for other governments. Allied occupation of parts of Germany will continue until reparation is made, but will be reduced at the end of each of three five-year periods, if Germany fulfils her obligations. Any violation by Germany of the conditions laid down in the treaty as to the zone fifty kilometers east of the Rhine will be regarded as an act of war.

The German navy is reduced to six battleships, six light cruisers and twelve torpedo boats. Germany is de-

prived of her submarines, and the personnel of her navy is not to exceed 15,000. She is forbidden to build forts controlling the Baltic, must demolish Heligoland, open the Kiel Canal to all nations, and surrender her fourteen submarine cables; she may have no military or naval forces except 100 unarmed seaplanes until October 1, to detect mines; she may manufacture aviation material for six months.

Germany accepts full responsibility for all damages caused to the Allied and Associated Governments and nationals. She agrees specifically to reimburse all civilian damages beginning with an initial payment of 20,000,000,000 marks (\$5,000,000,000), subsequent pay-

Responsibilities and Damages

ment to be secured by bonds to be issued at the discretion of the Reparations Commission. She is to pay shipping damage on a ton-for-ton basis by a cession of a part of her merchant, coasting and river fleet and by new construction; she is to devote moreover her economic resources to the rebuilding of those regions she devastated during the war. She agrees to return to the 1914 most-favored-nation tariffs without discrimination of any kind; to allow Allied and Associated nationals freedom of transit through her territories, and to accept detailed provisions as to pre-war debts, unfair competition, internationalization of roads and rivers, and other economic and financial clauses.

The Allied and Associated Powers publicly arraign William II of Hohenzollern, former Emperor of Germany, "not for an offense against criminal law, but for a supreme offense against international morality and the sanctity of treaties," and will demand his trial by an international high court composed of one representative of each of the five great Powers which are parties to the treaty. Holland is to be asked to extradite the former Emperor, and Germany is to be held responsible for delivering him to the tribunal.

By the terms of the treaty, the League of Nations is accepted by the Allied and Associated Powers as operative, and by Germany in principle, but without present membership. An international labor

League of Nations; Commissions

body is brought into being with a permanent office and an annual convention. Other international bodies of different kinds are created, some under the League of Nations, some to execute the peace treaty. Among the former are the commission to govern the Saar basin till a plebiscite is held fifteen years hence, the Danzig Commission, various commissions for plebiscites in Malmédy, Schleswig, and East Prussia. Among the commissions to carry out the peace treaty are the reparations, the military, naval, air, financial and economic commissions, the international high court and military tribunals, and several bodies for the control of international rivers. Certain problems are left for solution to the Allied and Associated Powers, such as the details of the disposition of the German fleet, and the

former German colonies; other problems are either agreed to in detail or set for early international action.

After examining the terms of the treaty, Count von Brockdorff-Rantzau, head of the German delegates at Versailles, sent a note to Premier Clemenceau, the chairman *German Plenipotentiaries Threaten to* Commission, declaring that the treaty *Reject the Terms* contained demands many of them incapable of fulfilment, which could be borne by no people. The German delegation also declared in letters sent to the Allied and Associated Powers that in essential points, the basis of a peace of right agreed upon between the belligerents had been abandoned. To these objections the Allied Powers replied that they could admit of no discussion of their right to insist upon the terms of the peace treaty substantially as drafted. The German delegates were further informed in answer to a complaint that Germany was asked to sign the Allied plan for a League of Nations, although not among the States invited to enter it, that the admission of additional member States had not been overlooked, but had been explicitly provided for in the second paragraph of Article I of the covenant.

The terms of the treaty seem to have produced amazement, and almost consternation in Germany. Writing in the *Berlin Tageblatt*, Dr. Theodor Wolff says: "Although we were prepared for a good deal, even for everything, we can only say that the treaty surpasses our worst expectations. It does not show a trace of statesmanship or of President Wilson's principles, but is a brutal, thoughtless product of thoughtless, intoxicated brutality." The *Bourse Courier* says: "The territorial concessions are more extensive and unbearable than we expected." The *Lokal Anzeiger* published a summary of the treaty under the heading "Crushing Conditions." The treaty does not seem to have aroused much enthusiasm in the French press, although there is no positive dissatisfaction with it. M. Capus, in the *Figaro* says: "Evidently the treaty represents the greatest possible approximation to a finished and definite article," adding, however, that it assures energy to the victorious peoples, especially the French. M. Hervé in *La Victoire* says that he is almost satisfied with it. "It is just the peace we dreamed of, without violence, annexations and conquests, but containing nearly all the restitutions, reparations and guarantees we could reasonably expect." "Pertinax" of the *Echo de Paris* is dissatisfied with the terms. The *Petit Journal* sums up fairly well the general opinion of the Parisian press in these words: . . . "Although the treaty as it stands does not give those concerned all the compensation they had a right to expect, it is an honorable compromise and deserves a favorable reception." In the London press the terms receive fairly general approval but do not escape criticism on several points. The objections center mainly on the question of financial compensation.

The Treaty and the Press

In the United States, while the press opposed to the League of Nations criticizes the inclusion of the League

in the treaty, the terms of the pact itself meet with general approval. The New York *World* says that the terms imposed upon Germany are light in comparison with the terms which the Germans would have imposed, had they triumphed. The New York *Tribune* declares that the settlement will make for peace. The New York *Herald* states: "Whatever difference of opinion there may be with regard to the practicability of the League of Nations, there can be none over the inspiration of the terms upon which Germany is permitted to have peace. They are dictated by retributive justice." The St. Louis *Globe-Democrat* admits that the terms may be severe, but adds that no one can say that they are not just. The Milwaukee *Journal* looks upon the treaty as not one of conquest of territory, but of restoration. The Cleveland *Plain Dealer* calls it a hard peace but not an unjust one. The Springfield *Republican* declares that some of the issues which appeared most threatening have been cleared away. The New Orleans *Times-Picayune* does not find the terms unjust or too severe. To the Providence *Journal* the terms appear as a rigorous embodiment of the stern principles of reparation, restitution and indemnity. The St. Louis *Westliche Post* says that by the terms of the treaty the German Empire ceases to exist as an independent national unit, and that it has been eliminated as a factor in international commerce by the loss of its fleet. The Detroit *Abend-Post* declares that the Paris Conference ended in bitterness and hate, and that the treaty reduces Germany to the lowest place among the nations. The Cincinnati *Volksblatt* emphasizes the great economic losses from which Germany will suffer.

With regard to the proposed pledge offered by Mr. Wilson to come to the aid of France should she be attacked by Germany, the following cablegram from the President was made public on May 9:

The Pledge to France

"Happily there is no mystery or privacy about what I have promised to the Government here (Paris). I have promised to propose to the Senate a supplement in which we shall agree, subject to the approval of the Council of the League of Nations, to come immediately to the assistance of France in case of unprovoked attack by Germany, thus merely hastening the action by which we should be bound by the covenant of the League of Nations." The President thus asserts that action by the United States under the pledge, if approved by the Senate, will be subject to approval by the League of Nations. He also indicates that the pledge is for the purpose of enabling the United States to act in case of emergency.

Czecho-Slovakia.—In order to preserve their Catholic traditions, customs and religion, the Catholics of Czecho-Slovakia, profiting by the experience of their co-religionists in Alsace-Lorraine and Italy, have

The Popular Party organized a "popular party" which is to give a united effectiveness to their hitherto scattered efforts. The program, which is

summarized in the *Catholic News Service* of London, in its main outlines, is as follows:

The Czech State must have, as a foundation, a democratic nationalism and social reform; universal suffrage, free and secret ballot, the right to vote for men and women, proportional representation both in parliament and the local assemblies; a republican form of government; the party adopts in practice the principle of a "free Church for a free State," they desire Catholic schools for Catholic children, ecclesiastical properties bequeathed as gifts to the Church by their ancestors to be in the possession of the clergy for dwellings in order that they may peacefully follow their labors of promoting education and civilization; partial expropriation of the *latifundia* to give to the peasants as a means of existence; maintenance of private property; liberty of association; liberty of the press; condemnation of the struggle of the classes, this to be replaced by the mitigation of class quarrels on the principles of Christian charity, justice and humanity; as a necessary foundation for the ideal progress of the nation, the spirit of Sts. Cyril and Methodius will be cultivated, in which spirit the party will seek its fullest development; the party condemns excessive and sterile militarism and capitalism.

A Catholic daily, *Le Den*, is to be established as the medium for the party's propaganda, and a subscription list has already been started as a means to this end.

Germany.—Bolshevism and Spartacism seem, for the time at least, to have met with utter defeat. The fall of the Communist reign in Munich followed after a bitter

Bolshevism Suppressed

but ineffective defense against the artillery fire of the Government troops. The success of the Ebert and Schiedemann régime in quelling the entire insurrection throughout Germany is due to Herr Gustav Noske, their Minister of Defense, a person unknown in military circles six months ago. With the remnants of former battalions and with hurriedly recruited volunteer regiments he has brought back law and order throughout the country. Munich, said to have been the best fed of the German capitals, was apparently the stronghold of Communist violence. The wonder is that the hardy Bavarians so utterly succumbed to a handful of Bolsheviks, many of them foreign anarchists, who have now apparently been defeated and scattered. It is probable that the Hoffman Government will be firmly established in Bavaria. No insurrections on an equal scale are expected in other sections, although desultory efforts at revolution will doubtless continue to be made. The endless divisions among the Bolshevik groups themselves, reaching from the Left-Wing Independents to the extreme anarchists led by Herr Rocker, lately returned from his internment in England, give good ground for hope that peace can be preserved. The secret service, too, which the Red Guard had disbanded under Liebknecht, has now been reorganized and is keeping close scrutiny on Bolshevik machinations. The Communists are furthermore well out of funds, since Germany has now been closed against the Russian rubles. "The German Bolsheviks," the chief of the new secret service remarked, "are pinning their last hope on a possible failure in obtaining peace, and a delay

in the improvement of the food situation." Saxony at present remains for them the most promising field in as far as that State is without troops. Among the last acts of violence reported was the destruction by Spartacan forces of a train crowded with Republican troops. Three hundred bodies were taken from the wreckage.

Ireland.—The Irish Republic has addressed the subjoined message to the nations of the world:

The nation of Ireland, having proclaimed her national independence, calls, through her elected representatives in Parliament assembled in the Irish capital on January 21, 1919, upon every free nation to support the Irish Republic by recognizing Ireland's national status and her right to its vindication at the Peace Congress.

Ireland and the Nations
Nationally, the race, the language, the customs and traditions of Ireland are radically distinct from the English; Ireland is one of the most ancient nations in Europe, and she has preserved her national integrity, vigorous and intact, through seven centuries of foreign oppression; she has never relinquished her national rights, and throughout the long era of English usurpation she has in every generation defiantly proclaimed her inalienable right of nationhood down to her last glorious resort to arms in 1916.

Internationally, Ireland is the gateway of the Atlantic. Ireland is the last outpost of Europe toward the west; Ireland is the point upon which great trade-routes between east and west converge; her independence is demanded by the freedom of the seas; her great harbors must be open to all nations instead of being the monopoly of England. Today these harbors are empty and idle solely because English policy is determined to retain Ireland as a barren bulwark for English aggrandizement, and the unique geographical position of this Island, far from being a benefit and safeguard to Europe and America, is subjected to the purposes of England's policy of world domination.

Ireland today reasserts her historic nationhood the more confidently before the New World, emerging from the war because she believes in freedom and justice as the fundamental principles of international law, because she believes in frank co-operation between the peoples for equal rights against the vested privileges of ancient tyrannies, because the permanent peace of Europe can never be secured by perpetuating military domination for the profit of empire, but only by establishing the control-government in every land upon the basis of the free-will of a free people, and the existing state of war between Ireland and England can never be ended until Ireland is definitely evacuated by the armed forces of England.

For these, among other reasons, Ireland—resolutely and irrevocably determined at the dawn of the promised era of self-determination and liberty that she will suffer foreign dominion no longer—calls upon every free nation to uphold her national claim to complete independence as an Irish Republic against the arrogant pretensions of England, founded on fraud and sustained only by an overwhelming military occupation, and demands to be confronted publicly with England at the congress of the nations, that the civilized world, having judged between English wrong and Irish right, may guarantee to Ireland its permanent support for the maintenance of her national independence.

The "overwhelming military occupation" consists of "some multiple of 40,000-strong on a war-footing," as a recent letter from Ireland announces. Of these soldiers 10,000 are cruel and mercenary Gurkhas, of one of the dominant races of Nepal, India, men comparable to the savage-Cossacks only. Despite this oppression the Irish-

American delegates to Paris, at present in Ireland, find Erin "afire with republicanism."

Mexico.—This unfortunate country has been thrown into new and great disorder by the renewed activities of Villa, who is operating in central and southern Chihuahua. He has already taken Bustillos, Jimenez and Pappal, and is, as usual, acting savagely, for he executed the

Revolutions and Protests

mayor of the last named city and two of the latter's sons. It is supposed that much of the ammunition recently shipped from the United States to Carranza has been seized by Villa. Dispatches from Mexico state that the whole of northern Mexico will probably go over to Villa, who once more has the assistance of General Angeles. Carranza has ordered troops to proceed from the oil district, Tampico, to Chihuahua, thus leaving a rather clear field to his enemies, the Palaez brothers, Gutierrez and Caballero. Meantime the military and judicial authorities are at odds over the execution of General Alvarez, an act carried out by the army in defiance of a decision of the Supreme Court. To add to the confusion, heated campaigns for the election of governors are in progress in eight States. Despite all this American papers continue to report "progress" in Mexico. A recent article in the *New York Times* occasioned the following letter:

"I note your editorial article on a visit to Mexico of the San Antonio Chamber of Commerce. I note you also neglect to state that these gentlemen went as the guests of President Carranza, and while no mishap occurred to them their train had to be preceded by an armored scout train, and while Cuernavaca is only fifty miles from Mexico City they were unable to go to this point, because the entire line has been blocked by bandits for four years. It would be very interesting, too, to publish the reason why they were unable to go to San Luis Potosi direct from Tampico, also why members of the party were forbidden to take any photographs of the scenes of devastation they saw.

Of Mexico's thirty railroads, only one is running on schedule, and it is preceded by an armored train. Just as soon as the Carranza Government can stop outlawry, it will be flooded by more capital than it knows how to care for; but one guilty bandit caught and exterminated is worth more to prospective investors than all the propaganda of optimism the Carranza Government can issue.

During all this row Carranza has remained firm in his anti-American policy. He has confirmed his repudiation of the Monroe Doctrine on the ground that it is patronizing, and meddlesome.

Religious conditions show some slight improvement. A Catholic Labor Congress was recently held in Guadalajara, and from April 27 to May 4 a "Catholic Social Week" was held in Puebla. The first of these latter congresses was held in Leon, Guanajuato, in 1908, the second in Mexico City, in 1910, the third in Mexico City, in 1911, the fourth in Zacatecas, in 1912, the fifth in Puebla. The Hierarchy of Spain have issued a splendid protest against Carranza's attitude towards the Church, and the Pope has begun to fill the vacant sees.

Cross Currents at Versailles

J. C. WALSH

Staff Correspondent of "America"

THE Germans have come to Versailles, but at this time, opinion is about equally divided as to whether the convention, if signed, will assure to humanity the blessings of peace: the preponderance of opinion is in the unfavorable sense. Those who assume that the convention will be signed and that peace will ensue go upon the assumption that, through chances known to diplomacy, the attitude of Germany has already been learned, and that the statesmen assembled at Paris, though they may have had many difficulties to overcome, have dealt with all of them with a view to both the immediate and the ultimate results. Those who hold to the contrary believe that there was the possibility of real peace in adherence to the letter of President Wilson's fourteen points and to the spirit of his speeches; in every deviation from the terms laid down they see danger to the immediate position, and in every invasion of the principles advocated by the much abused "ideologue" they see the prospect of an era of permanent hatreds as a substitute for the establishment of permanent peace. It may be that the Peace Conference has done much towards making war improbable. It may even be that somewhere in the League of Nations proposals, there is hidden away a touchstone by resort to which peace can at all times be preserved. The fact remains that those who came here thinking the world would be started off on an assured footing of peace are very downhearted. One hears plenty of talk of new possibilities of war, but rarely, any more, anything about lasting peace. It may be not without interest to note certain features of the existing situation, as indications of what these Europeans have in mind.

To begin with France: one might have thought that the French would be satisfied with the restoration of Alsace and Lorraine. Far from it. Encouraged by the success of the propaganda carried on during so many years with that object in view, they have now embarked upon a new design. They want the left bank of the Rhine as the eastern boundary of France. They go back to the authority of their kings. Their thought ranges from the Roman to the Napoleonic Empire. They actually had possession of the left bank as far north as the Dult boundary in the time of the Revolution, and now they propose to get it all again. They had then possession of Spire, Mayence, Coblenz, Bonn, Cologne, Creveld, Cleves. When they were in that situation they felt that the ancient boundary had been restored, that Gaul was as the Romans found and left it. The Treaty of Paris and the Treaty of Vienna robbed them of their birthright. They want it back. They do not know when it will come, they are willing to wait, but this is the time they choose for beginning the agitation. If they

could have induced the Peace Conference to give it they would have been very happy. Since that was not to be, they will prepare for the next peace conference, and in the meantime they count upon the influence of a long occupation of the coveted territory by French armies, and the enforced absence of German military effort in the region.

The realization of such a project would serve to isolate Luxemburg from Germany. It would be convenient, therefore, for Luxemburg to be French too. That is why, when it was suggested that Luxemburg ought now to be added to Belgium, French propaganda, acting through Luxemburg people, essentially French, started an agitation for a Luxemburg republic. The calculation is that if the propitious moment should come it would be easier to arrange for the incorporation into France of a friendly Luxemburg State than to detach the territory from Belgium and add it to France. As to how all this will come about, who knows? France has had enough of war, but amongst those who serve her are some who see possibilities in wars that other peoples may wage. At present they think the chances favor war between America and Japan or between America and England. If such things happened, Germany being in the state of helplessness to which it is now proposed to reduce her, perhaps the hour of France's opportunity may strike. At any rate, the process of educating the French people to general acceptance of the new national ideal has begun. Perhaps the most notable book on the subject, as it is undoubtedly the most profusely documented, is "*La France sur le Rhin*," by Frantz Funck-Brentano, a most distinguished writer on modern history, which carries a sympathetic preface by Maurice Barrès of the *Académie Française*, who is devoting his own pen to the same cause in the pages of the *Echo de Paris*, generally supposed to be the accredited organ of the army. M. Funck-Brentano dedicates the book to the memory of his two sons and his son-in-law, killed in this war. Book, preface and dedication taken together constitute a rather startling indication of the spirit in which France approaches the era which in thought, a few months ago, was to witness the reign of peace.

In Italy there are other signs. For instance, there is the business about Fiume. Trieste was the port of Austria, Fiume was the port of Hungary, the Imperial Government which recently ceased to function gave the benefit of its favor to Trieste. The excellent Austrian mercantile fleet operating in the Adriatic and the Aegean had its headquarters there. It was the *entrepôt* for central Europe. Fiume could serve the same great area, and the Hungarians wanted a great port in their own territory. A famous English steamship line, eager for

emigrant and other business, thought well of the Hungarian patriotic ideal and, not being welcome in the home of its rivals in Trieste, acquired extensive harbor facilities at Fiume. As a prize of war, Trieste falls to Italy, which foresees a return to the era of glory when Venice, before the days of railways and modern docks, was the meeting point of trade between Europe and the East. Italy wants Fiume too for the excellent reason that Fiume might rival and even outrival Trieste. If Italy had both she could expand both, or expand Trieste and stagnate Fiume. If the new Serb kingdom were to get Fiume, two things would happen. Italy's trade prestige would suffer, which is bad enough; and Serbia's economic importance would be so considerably increased, and her political importance with it, that Italy might have to say good-by to her ambitious projects for domination and exploitation in the Balkans. On the other hand, one can see that the English steamship company might not look with too friendly eyes upon a condition in which the fate of Fiume was wholly in the hands of an Italian Government disposed to favor Trieste and to build up business for an Italian merchant fleet. With this prospect of Italian and British rivalry for the carrying trade of Europe and the East (and West) via the Adriatic, the present outburst of anger against England in the Italian press is not incomprehensible.

Again, for all the fine homilies that are spoken in Paris about a Latin union, the tendency in Italy is to draw away from France. There is rivalry between them in the Mediterranean. Italy desires to increase in industrial effort and must have coal to do so. France has none to spare, English coal comes in at too high a price. The *Tedeseti* (Austrians) between whom and the Italians there was mutual hate, are now out of Italian hands, and they or their German neighbors have cheap coal to sell and much business to do with Italians, whereas there is much less to be looked for between Italy and France. In addition, the Italians know, or believe, which comes to the same thing, that the French manifest towards them a contempt whose wounds strike deep. They do not expect from the French any help against the Croats, Serbs and Slovenes, towards whom their hatred has now been directed. The temper of Italy, and her outlook upon the future, may be inferred from a plan of which I have heard here in Paris. If Fiume does not go to Italy, the Italians will sign the treaty nevertheless, but a volunteer expedition will some day take possession of the port and, in presence of the accomplished fact, Italy will assume the responsibility of caring for the Italian population of the city. Italian diplomacy, which is very clear-sighted, will have arranged for the permanence of this accidental deliverance. Is it any wonder the engineers are looking carefully over other sites which might be suitable for English ships and for the development of Serbo-Croatian trade with Austria and Hungary? Naturally, the support Italy must have

in such a crisis would be arranged for outside the Powers now meeting in Paris.

The third sign of trouble comes from Manchester. France may say what she will about the left bank of the Rhine, the Saar coalfields and the need of relieving her own financial necessities by a perennial drain upon the resources of Germany. Manchester has a higher respect for France than in the Fashoda days, or even in 1870, but the factories of England, without whose operation the teeming population cannot be sustained, require the re-opening of the trade with Germany and of the trade with Russia, which seems to depend upon Germany. Lord Robert Cecil has gone home to London from Paris with the message that Europe is bankrupt. Bankrupts are not rated high in Manchester as business clients, and, for England, business is life, not by way of preference but as of necessity. When, therefore, they protest in Paris that economic and financial conditions are in a parlous state in France, that France has borrowed outside for war-expenses sums there is now no expectation of getting from Germany, that the interior borrowings have resulted in paper issues by the Bank of France so much in excess of bullion security as greatly to depress the currency, that the annual budget must be, for a while, a sum equal to two-thirds of the whole earnings of the people, Manchester's attitude is what a Manchester house's attitude would be towards any insolvent seeking for an extension of credit. The idea of saving one such customer by deliberately reducing the purchasing capacity of another does not enter the Manchester man's head. A peace which will start the wheels in Birmingham, the spindles in Oldham, and the looms in Bradford, is his idea of "a clean peace." Such a peace may not be popular in Paris, but it was well enough regarded in Hull to wipe out a 10,000 Government majority and return an opponent of Lloyd George. That gentleman is peculiarly susceptible to the influence of such arguments, however exalted may be his admiration for Clemenceau.

From Manchester also, or perhaps rather from London, comes the first note of declared antagonism to Japan. Japan, it seems, has made hay in the East while the rain of blood was falling in the West, and China is at her mercy. Japan's grip must be broken. China must be preserved. With some gift of imagination and a knowledge of history one can see in this the germ of one of those high moral issues which, as experience proves, are evolved from hard luck, expressed with lyric feeling, reiterated with increasing vehemence, become the inspiration of peoples and end in wars: For preference it is better that such wars should be waged by others, a result British diplomacy has been able in most instances to procure. But war anyhow and the definite removal of the obstacles. That Americans have been arrested by the Japanese in Seoul and that Americans and Japanese are at grips in Tien-Tsin are facts which have a bearing on the case, although, as far as

America is concerned, the foreseeing ones in Paris are more interested in the plans for a big American navy and a great American merchant marine with consequent irritation in England. As for the Japanese, the feeling is that they are in the Peace Conference but not of it. They listen admirably, observe keenly and speak just enough to serve as a reminder of their presence, and of their remoteness.

Thus variously minded, France, Italy, England and Japan are about to pledge their several faiths to Mr.

Wilson that they will, if and when unanimous, preserve the peace of the world, and more especially of that part of it which is to consist of a series of weak States to be gently interposed between the upper millstone of Germany and the nether millstone of Russia. If they should happen not to be unanimous, well, the provisions are not very clear, and one guess might be as good as another. Meantime, the Russian position invites separate consideration, even though it has a bearing upon the problems of each of the other countries.

The New York Rent Problem

JAMES DAWSON

THERE is much discontent in the great cities because of the increase in rents. The situation, due to a number of reasons has become a serious one, and in New York City particularly is becoming acute.

The causes are simple to analyze. As in the sale of any commodity, the law of supply and demand has been operating a strong influence. During the past three years few buildings have been erected. In fact there has been not merely a diminution in the supply of dwelling houses, but an absolute cessation of all building operations. The necessities of war called our man-power from peaceful pursuits to fulfil the more urgent demands of the conflict. In the same degree the manufacture of those things which man needs in his normal life was laid aside to make way for the successful prosecution of the war. Consequently there was a double flow of men and materials from the needs of peace to the needs of war. This movement was emphasized when the Federal Government prohibited all enterprises which might deflect the nation's energies from the single object before it. The reaction was strongest in the construction of homes, the erection of which was rendered impossible from both patriotic and economic standpoints. As a result no new houses were built.

Although the supply has greatly diminished, the demand has not proportionately decreased. There has been a normal increase in population during this period which necessitated additional housing facilities for dwelling purposes. In New York there has been a yearly increase of 500,000 people. This proportion is also true of other cities. In addition there has been marked development in transit facilities which has resulted in a shift of the population from the center of the city to the nearby outlying districts. In New York City the expansion of the subway system has been a tremendous influence in shifting the congested areas. The opening of the new divisions giving swift access to the business and financial sections induced the clerk, the salesman and those other subordinates who receive moderate salaries to seek homes in surroundings more pleasant than those of the congested districts of the immediate city. Within the past five years the population of the Bronx, Queens,

and the other suburban boroughs has doubled itself. Instead of sparsely settled fringes these boroughs have become highly developed communities of apartment-house dwellers. The old frame house which sheltered the single family has passed out and has given place to the ten, twenty and thirty family apartment house.

This trend from the city proper has been in force for some time and is still at its peak. People have learned to shun the depressing atmosphere of the lower East Side. No longer are they satisfied with the houses of the old tenement type. The result of this movement caused by the expansion of transit facilities and a desire on the part of the people for the new "all-improvements" apartment has been that the supply has fallen greatly below the demand until at present there are no apartments to be had. A tenant, therefore, has to submit to any and all increases in rent for he knows that he has no choice in the matter, that he cannot move, for there are no vacant places. If for any reason he should give up his apartment, it would be rented again before he could remove his furniture. In fact some landlords have "waiting lists" containing many names of those desiring rentals of apartments. The landlords have been making the most of an unfortunate economic condition. They have been getting high rents because they know that the tenant is powerless to do anything but submit.

It is true that the landlord is justified in increasing the rents of his apartments. The cost of labor and materials has increased for him as well as for everybody else. He pays a tax that is almost confiscatory. In a great number of cases he must raise his rents or lose his equity in the property. The problem arises not so much from the action of the honest owner, who looks also at the tenant's side of things. Such a landlord needs encouragement rather than censure. It is the other type whose activities should be curbed, the type of unscrupulous owner or lessee who takes advantage of the economic situation to gouge the tenant and make enormous profits out of the necessities of the people. And there are many people at present using these methods.

The practice is not uncommon to obtain the lease of a house tenanted with twenty or thirty families. If such

a house is paying the owner \$5,000 a year rent, the person seeking the lease purchases the lease for that amount or more. He thereupon becomes the lessee-landlord and as such has no interest in the house except so far as he can increase the revenue from it. If his lease costs him \$5,000 a year, on taking possession, he immediately raises the rent so as to meet this obligation and make a handsome profit on the investment.

It is not unusual for a New York tenant to have his rent raised twenty-five to fifty per cent within six months. Smarting under this injustice and realizing that the increase is due solely to the greed of the unscrupulous lessee, he feels the tyranny of it more bitterly when the lessee-landlord refuses to heat the apartment and cuts off, if he gives any, the supply of hot water during most of the day.

If the tenant seeks to combat this unjust and unwarranted action and declines to pay his rent until conditions are improved, he soon receives notice to vacate the premises. If the matter is taken to the courts, the tenant is told to pay his rent or move. He cannot move because there are no vacancies. As a result he finds himself ground down between the upper and nether millstone. In an actual case a woman whose child was ill with influenza had a complaint sent to the Board of Health about the lack of heat. The owner was fined fifty dollars. The following month the rent of every tenant in the house, except that of the complainant, was raised two dollars a month. Hers was raised four dollars. So completely is the tenant the victim of present circumstances that even concerted action on the part of his fellow-tenants results only in misery to himself and his family. In one instance some thirty families decided to resist the unjustifiable demands of the landlord. Within a short time they found themselves and all their belongings placed on the sidewalk. This occurred during a period of cold weather and the children of the striking tenants were subjected to great physical discomforts. It is needless to say that the strike was futile, as there were any number of people willing to move immediately into the apartments from which the striking tenants had been ejected.

This roughly outlines the situation as it exists today. Many attempts to solve this problem have been made. Under and running through it there is always the fundamental and inviolate right of a man to make a contract. Therefore, any attempt by legislation to disturb this right would be clearly unconstitutional and thereby inoperative. Any general law would also react against the honest conscientious landlord who is doing his bit to satisfy his tenant even at the risk of losing his investment. His burden in carrying taxation is a heavy enough one now, without adding to it. The solution cannot be found in any general punitive measure. To be effective such a law must be comprehensive and consequently would work injury to the innocent holder of property, who must increase the rents of his tenants.

It has also been suggested that some kind of administrator be appointed with authority to review the acts of the landlord pertaining to any increase in rentals. This suggestion is based upon the fact that there has been regulation by the Federal Government in other matters pertaining to the necessities of life. However, there is no parity between the control of foodstuffs and their price and the rents of apartments because there enter into the latter many elements which do not exist in the sale of foodstuffs. The nature of the house, the service that it renders, the nature of the locality, the investment of the landlord, all these are determining factors which would make the control of rents a difficult problem. There could be no universal rule that would work justice both to the tenant and the landlord. Each particular case would have to stand by itself and be determined solely on the judgment of the administrator. All such attempts to solve the problem would merely touch the effect and not reach the cause. The basis of the whole question, as has been stated, is the general principle of the law of supply and demand and any adequate and permanent cure must recognize that law. Conditions can be remedied only by increasing the supply. Consequently, outside of some minor regulatory provisions, there will not be and cannot be any satisfactory remedy, until there are begun and completed buildings suitable for dwellings.

At present there is no inducement for the investor to build. In order to obtain money, he has to pay a high percentage of interest and even then cannot obtain terms that are satisfactory. The cost of materials and labor is so great today that he cannot build a house and compete in rentals with houses built under pre-war conditions. Today common labor costs four dollars a day and is hardly obtainable even at that high rate. Skilled artisans are receiving salaries fifty per cent higher than before the war. The cost of materials is proportionately high. Brick has increased forty per cent in the past two years; lumber has jumped from forty to sixty-four dollars; plumbing is thirty-five per cent above pre-war figures. Altogether the house which before the war cost \$35,000 cannot under the present schedules be erected for less than \$55,000. Therefore, to get a return on his investment, the builder must raise his rents in proportion to the added cost of erecting the building. Even should prices go down within the next five or ten years, he will still have to maintain his rents and thus will be unable to compete with the houses that are built subsequent to his and at cheaper prices. Thus, he would have the two-fold disadvantage of maintaining a house that cost more than an older or a newer building. Under these conditions, therefore, there is small probability that building operations will soon be started. Money will not flow into the erection of dwellings until such investment is made attractive. This can be done by using artificial means to induce investors to build.

The present condition, outside of the profiteering cases,

and they are altogether too numerous, is due to economic causes which can hardly be influenced by legal action. As the situation is today, the only affirmative relief that seems to be worth serious consideration is State-aid in making more easy the burden of taxation.

If any building put up at the present time is exempted from taxation for a period long enough to equalize the higher cost of post-war erection with the lower cost of pre-war building there would be some attraction for people to invest their money in this way. It might be arranged, that the city allow a five or ten year exemption from taxation on all dwellings begun during the coming year. Thus, in some measure at least the builder would be relieved from the heavy burdens that make construction work impossible now.

A still further and more radical solution of the difficulties would be erection by the State of apartment houses, along the lines suggested for the housing of soldiers. In England, the commission appointed to consider the housing problems of soldiers took up the question of providing dwellings and there is some probability that the Government will take an active part in stimulating construction of dwellings and if necessary in building itself. Massachusetts has had a Homestead Commission during the past few years and under its authority the State has erected homes for its workmen. The plan is extremely limited in scope but seems to be meeting with success. However, we cannot hope for any aid from this source. A constitutional amendment would be necessary before the State could engage in this work. Such an amendment would require enactment by two senates of the legislature and ratification by the people on a referendum, a procedure that would require three years time.

The whole problem was laid before the legislature just ended and the members did not seem greatly disposed to attempt any real solution of it. They appointed a commission to investigate the situation and allowed it an appropriation of \$10,000. The learned body will spend the \$10,000 and report that the present high rents are due to a shortage of houses! A few simple, practical measures, such as the McKee bill which required the landlord to give the tenant twenty-one days notice of any increase of rent, were before the legislature, but they were killed in committee. Even these did not go to the root of the evil, but they might have helped the tenant bear his burden more easily. However, the legislature that refused to grant an eight-hour day to women and children could not be expected to give any real help to the tenant.

Whatever the solution may be and it is not the writer's intention to put forward any solution as his own, it cannot be denied that the problem is a serious one, which is causing great unrest among the people. In view of the prediction of many builders that rents will continue to go up, the whole matter assumes grave proportions. Perhaps time alone can bring the remedy but it

does seem a great pity that the poor as usual must carry the heavier load.

The Belgian Refugees in England

A. HILLIARD ATTERIDGE

EARLY in the New Year all over England, wherever there was a colony of Belgian refugees, placards were posted giving, in English, Flemish and French, notice that the work of repatriation was beginning and indicating the local center where application for free transport homewards was to be made. Of something like a quarter of a million refugees nearly 100,000 have returned to Belgium, at the time at which I write, the middle of April. The work is being carried out with the co-operation of the British and Belgian authorities, in such a way that anything like a rush is avoided. The Belgians travel in parties of moderate numbers, and a comfortable journey ends either in their being replaced in their old surroundings or in new employment.

The return journey presents many pleasing contrasts to the wild flight of 1914. The quarter of a million that reached the English shores in those weeks of terror does not of course represent the total exodus from invaded Belgium. Large numbers found refuge in Holland, others drifted into France as the flood of spiked helmets spread westward from Liège to Antwerp and Ostend in the dark time of defeat for the Allies.

The Belgians began to arrive in England in the last week of August, 1914, the first parties reaching London by way of the southwestern ports. Their appearance was the event that brought most strongly home to the English public the serious turn that the war was taking. In the first few weeks of the war the newspapers had been telling the public of Belgian successes. Every patrol skirmish was magnified into a battle ending in a Belgian victory, and there were wild tales of the wholesale slaughter of the invading "Boches." The news that the enemy was in Brussels came as a shock, and tended to discredit these optimistic reports. Then came vague news of the Allied retreat, and the visible demonstration that things were going badly was supplied by the arrival of the fugitives from Belgium, a few at first and then in hundreds every day.

It is to the credit of the people of London in particular, and those of England generally, that they rose to the occasion and gave the refugees a kindly, helpful welcome. It was a welcome in which those of every class from men of wealth and title down to poor workmen and working women took their part. At first everything was done by private efforts without the intervention of the officials. There was a common impulse to help the hard-stricken people, who had fled under the pressure of a widespread panic and landed on English shores mostly in utter poverty. They had come in crowded steamers, in fishing boats and other undecked craft, suffering much misery on the voyage, often after a long

tramp on the Flemish roads. The majority had brought nothing but the clothes they wore and perhaps a little bundle. The clothes were often very good, for they had put on the best they had to save them from loss. A few had money, but most had only small sums and many were absolutely penniless. They found themselves in a strange land, poverty-stricken, glad that they had escaped with life. But on every side helping hands were held out to them.

An unoccupied building in central London was secured by the War Refugees Committee as a reception place. Ranges of buildings that used to house the annual exhibitions at Earl's Court, in West London, and a huge derelict place of entertainment, the Alexandra Palace, in North London, were secured and converted into temporary barracks for the refugees. From these places they were distributed to more permanent homes in and about London and all over the country. Gifts of clothing, food and money poured in to the Committee, and from hundreds of places came offers to provide for a greater or less number of the new arrivals.

Local committees sprang up to assist in the good work. In the suburban village where I live more than 100 Belgians were received. Houses were taken for them, and furnished by all who could send in furniture, bedding, cooking utensils, etc. Workmen contributed to the fund for the support of the refugees by giving a small regular payment from their weekly earnings. It was a time when England itself was passing through a trying period of readjustment to new conditions. The strange prosperity of the workers, that later on resulted from the development of munition factories and the like on a gigantic scale, was still in the future. There was a dearth of employment among large classes of our own workers. What had to be done was to clothe and house the fugitives and maintain them till they could provide for themselves. So they became the guests of the people. To the credit of the Belgians it must be added that they were anxious for work and later on most of them became self-supporting.

In October, 1914, the last great wave of the exodus from Belgium came when Antwerp fell and the Germans marched into Zeebrugge and Ostend. In a single week 26,000 fugitives landed at the one port of Folkestone. The Government, through the medium of the Local Government Board, had now come to the help of the Committee, making grants of money and wisely still leaving private effort to do its part, and supervising and assisting instead of superseding local activities. In all 3,000,000 pounds sterling were provided by Government during the four years of the war. It was an economic expenditure, for it amounted on an average to only about sixty dollars for each unit of the immigration. Of course this was made possible only by (1) the help organized by the Committees, and (2) the fact that the immigrants became gradually for the most part self-supporting. Thousands of the younger men were drafted into

the Belgian army and for some months there was a Belgian training camp in the south of England. The trades unions co-operated in finding employment for the refugees. In the north of England around a munition works for the Belgian army there sprang up a little Belgian town of huts, Elizabethville was its name, in honor of the Belgian Queen. It had its church and curé, its schools and theater. In a London suburb round another factory, whole streets were gradually taken up to a great extent by Belgian workers. In the district in question the local education authority board, organized a school for the Belgian children, put nuns in charge of it, and paid them the full salary given to teachers in the London area. And this Board was almost entirely composed of Protestant members.

Here I must note that with the exception of the chiefs of one small Protestant—or rather anti-Catholic—agency, which attempted proselytism among the refugees, English non-Catholics acted most honorably in their respect for the religion of the Belgians. At Alexandra Palace in the first days of the immigration, the Committee converted the theater into a chapel where daily Mass was said for the refugees. It was in those early days that a Protestant friend said to me "I had a busy morning down in the country last Sunday. I made several runs with my motor car carrying Belgians some miles to hear Mass." Bishop Wachter, Cardinal Mercier's coadjutor, came to England to look after the spiritual interests of the refugees. He was able to send Belgian priests to assist the local clergy in many places. The Catholic Truth Society provided thousands of French and Flemish versions of its little prayer book for their use. Later on it produced popular books of Catholic instruction in Flemish, and as a result of this action there will be a Belgian Catholic Truth Society organized this summer to carry on the same work in Belgium that the C. T. S. has done in England.

At first there was a general impression that all Belgians were Catholics. Of course there has always been in Belgium a minority which is inspired by the irreligion, mis-called Liberalism, of the continent of Europe, and is either indifferent to religion or even actively anti-Catholic and anti-Christian. In some places there were little colonies of refugees belonging to this class. But most of the Belgians were Catholics, and many of them excellent, practising Catholics. Taking the immigrants as a whole they stood the test of the hard times remarkably well. Of course in a quarter of a million people one must find some that fell below the general average. And, indeed, among the refugees there was a small infusion of the "ne'er-do-well" element. When Antwerp was abandoned there were among the fugitives some scores of men who escaped from a labor colony for tramps and ex-criminals. But the great mass of the Belgians were a credit to their country. Gradually most of them settled down to steady work. They prospered once they got the chance. They saved money. The poverty stricken crowds

that landed in England in 1914 are leaving the country sufficiently well equipped to require arrangements to be made for sending their heavy baggage in advance to the ports of embarkation.

The repatriation is being carried out by district after district being cleared. In many places a farewell meeting of the refugees and their neighbors is arranged. A pleasing incident in many of these parting celebrations has been the presentation by the Belgians of some memorial of their gratitude to the people of the place. Special trains are provided. The parties of refugees mostly pass through London, spending there the last night in England. With the heavy baggage sent in advance, they carry only hand-packages for the voyage. They muster in the morning at a London railway station, where the list is finally checked and they travel by train to Tilbury on the lower Thames. There they find waiting for them the steamer that makes twice each week the voyage to Antwerp or Ostend. The ship is one of the large Cape liners, the "Guilford Castle." During the war she was fitted up and employed as a hospital ship, and she has

been transferred with all her comfortable fittings complete to the repatriation service. On arrival at the other side the Belgian officials take charge of the returned exiles.

To be quite frank, one must add that with all the friendly care bestowed on them on this return journey they are not all happy in their home going. I spoke to some of them one day at a London station. One man told me he was going back to the devastated coast zone near Ostend. He had been very happy in England. Now a new start in life was to be made under what he feared would be difficult conditions. "*Peut-être*" he said "*je vais du paradis à l'enfer.*" It was not a cheerful speech, though it was pleasant to know that he regarded England as a paradise for the refugees. I suggested that he would fare better than he expected, and that even the ruined coast tract of Belgium would soon be restored to prosperity, and prove to be undeserving of his anticipatory description of it. Some of the Belgians indeed talk freely of getting passports a little later and coming back to try their fortunes among the English people.

The K. of C. and Scientific Employment

JOHN B. KENNEDY

THE Knights of Columbus have now, it may be said, come to a complete accounting of their numerical resources. During the unprecedented rush of war work they have had little time to reflect on what their organization, as an organization, is, potentially; they have been too busy directing the unusual work at hand. Now, in the great rush to do reconstruction work, in the launching of vast programs and the advertising of immense ideas, the Knights have set themselves to the problem of reconstruction and unemployment, and with this result: that they can show the world a division and subdivision of machinery and general distribution of functions and amalgamation of energies that is almost philosophical in its simplicity.

The K. of C. subordinate council, as at present constituted, lends itself very well to the large and serious work that has been assigned to it. Even where membership is most limited, in the wide rural districts of the West, thorough representation of all ordinary trades and callings, will be found in the council. There is the professional man, the agricultural man, the banker, the merchant, the skilled mechanic. Always, of course, there is the priest, whose guidance and advice, based upon learning and a wide knowledge of human nature in its most intimate revelation, is an invaluable factor in the right accomplishment of work, the tools for which are mainly psychological and the end of which is the betterment of society.

It is a most promising sign that, in Catholic social activities, the selection of specialists is becoming more and more the rule. The Knights of Columbus selected

an expert to plan their employment and reconstruction work; with the result that their already productive machinery is now geared and oiled to an intensive capacity unsurpassed by any other organization in a similar field.

The dovetailing of the functions of the different subdivisions of government in the society is perfect. Beginning with the committee on war activities, deriving its authority from the board of directors, we have the committee's director general of employment and reconstruction work. Under him are the State deputies, who are sub-directors for their different jurisdictions; under them there are the district deputies, supervisors of the different Columbian, not military, districts; and under them the grand knights of the subordinate councils. Definitely between the district deputy and the State deputy, in the very large metropolitan centers, we find the chapter officials.

In each council there are five particular committees on the general employment-finding section of the council. Each committee is composed of five members, two acting as chairman and secretary respectively. Each committee is selected with the purpose in view of placing men and securing jobs for them by members acquainted with the particular needs and opportunities in each community.

Take, for instance, the work of each committee. The agricultural committee-personnel consists of a farmer who knows the needs of the farming community and where there is a chance to place men on the farm, a grocer or storekeeper who comes in general contact

with the people of the community and a traveling man who covers the agricultural centers and is an actual clearing-house of information.

The business and mercantile committee contains a banker who comes in daily contact with the representative business men of the community and thus has an intimate touch with business employment needs; a newspaper man who generally knows what is going on in the community and is in touch with conditions; the merchant who employs and therefore understands not only his own needs and requirements but who in his association with his fellow-merchants in meetings and conferences, comes to know the needs of his associates and can render valuable services in advising as to where jobs are available.

On the industrial committee of the council are a labor man who attends the meetings of the organizations of the workers and in this way knows about prospective jobs, from the men who work at the bench, in the mills, in the shops and the factories; the foreman who is in touch with the group of men under his charge and comes in contact with the superintendent and management, thereby learning of available positions in other departments than his own; and the employer, representative of capital, who is thoroughly acquainted with industry and how far its capital can be expended and jobs provided for the discharged service men.

The professional committee of the council consists of the attorney, who knows where men might be placed in the offices of lawyers, and corporations; or the doctor who has a peculiar contact of his own and who comes into close, personal relation with others interested in the finding of jobs for service men; and the real-estate man who is always a bureau of information valuable in securing all sorts of jobs.

The fifth committee of each council, the vocational committee, is most important, because, of the millions of men discharged from the army and navy, there are thousands who are ambitious and able to get higher and who wish to train themselves for some profession or position. The personnel of this committee is the pastor, the teacher and the civil-service employee. The pastor with his encouragement and high ideals can advise the young man; the teacher can guide and instruct him; and the civil-service employee knows government needs and requirements and how to fulfil them.

Thus each of the more than eighteen hundred K. of C. councils is a unit in employment work, with five committees which, with the grand knights and secretary of each council included in the aggregate makes an effective total of 37,250 volunteer workers and canvassers for the purpose of securing jobs for men demobilized from the service.

In addition to this powerful machinery which has been in operation since the signing of the armistice, there are the supreme council of the K. of C., all picked men; the supreme board of directors of the K. of C.,

peculiarly qualified, not only from personal experience but from geographical status, to aid and advise in the work; the K. of C. committee on war activities, whose functioning has been so successful that it won not only the admiration and affection of the American fighting man, but also the hearty support of the American people.

Under this direction and supreme control a system of co-ordination and co-operation with other agencies, such as the United States Employment Service and State employment bureaus, labor organizations, chambers of commerce, etc., has been effected. There is also a department of records with statistics and reports listing industries of all kinds and characters, factories and establishments and other places where men are employed.

A department of finance in connection with the K. of C. employment work is directed by Supreme Secretary William J. McGinley, and by publicity the Knights seek to maintain public interest in the great need of jobs for discharged service men.

By this wide and intensive ramification of their work the Knights are able to accumulate limitless data, which is of first importance in making surveys for the extension of their employment and reconstruction work. All told, the K. of C. committee on war activities, through its employment and reconstruction department is in reality stepping into the breach caused by the retrenchment of the work of the United States Employment Service. In New York City, as elsewhere, but specifically in the metropolis, more jobs have been secured for discharged service men through the Knights of Columbus than through any other welfare agency.

The forty-eight State deputies of the Knights of Columbus, heading the State jurisdictions, and the more than 6,000 subordinate council officers of the order, are a permanent body of executive talent in directing the efforts of the army of volunteer job-finders. K. of C. secretaries, overseas, on transports, and in camps at home, are all in the plan, canvassing employers and registering applicants.

Results? They are pouring in. And the Knights' newest scheme is adding to them. This scheme is the very simple plan of having soldiers, sailors and marines present their own arguments for employment to employers. One hundred war veterans have been employed at four dollars a day to make a flying-wedge of job-hunters in greater New York. They will hunt jobs for their comrades. Should they find a job suitable to their own requirements, they will quit the wedge and other recruits fill in. If the plan is successful in New York it will be tried elsewhere.

The fact that the Knights have, so far, succeeded in obtaining more than 25,000 jobs for ex-fighting men is a guarantee of continued success, and the adoption of novel methods and thoroughly expert direction of their immensely potential machinery is a tangible indication that we not only keep abreast of the times but step ahead and lead, when intelligent determination is sup-

ported by an energetic realization of resources. Large words which, boiled down, mean: Get busy, be busy, keep busy.

A Venetian Afternoon

JOSEPH F. WICKHAM, M.A.

DAY after day the great piazza in front of St. Mark's will send you forth in search of new beauty or fresh thrill; night after night it will call you back home. Finally to your infinite sorrow a golden afternoon will come when you must say farewell to it all and step into your dark gondola for your final ferrying down the Grand Canal on your way to the cities of the land. Your good gondolier will meet you at your very home, and with a brave push of the oar will carry you out into the middle of the Canalazzo, where so many more of the Venetian gondola fleet are riding the waters. You will say *au revoir* to the church of Santa Maria della Salute, and then settle yourself to glide down the broad winding stream. The sun will glow caressingly upon the water, the blue sky with thin patches of white cloud will smile above you, perhaps a faint wind will sweep gratefully across the avenue of beauty. And ever as your skiff cleaves its curving pathway into every point of the compass, the great balconied palaces, Gothic, Oriental, Renaissance, look down upon you from either side. Full of glory they were once, when they sheltered senator and councilor and merchant prince; and though they lack not magnificence now, your heart kindles with the remembrance of their better days when they were fresh from the hands of Sansovino, or Scamozzi, or Longhena. Your gondolier can call them all by name, and he will, if you wish him to, but you remember the more noted ones yourself.

You have scarcely passed the beautiful Palazzo Corner della Cà Grande when you are drifting beneath the Ponte di Ferro, just opposite the Academia. Then you forget the palace fronts for the moment, or at best make their beauty share with the beauty of your memories of all those masterpieces in Venice's great gallery. The gallery itself is the building of the former Scuola di Santa Maria della Carità. Within its halls, after Venice fell, the French Government brought together some of the best paintings of the monasteries and churches and public offices. There are seven hundred or more in all, many of them, to be sure, inferior. The visitor will linger before Giovanni Bellini's "Madonna," Paolo Veronese's "Jesus in the House of Levi," Paris Bordone's "Presentation of St. Mark's Ring to the Doge," the "Holy Family of Palma Vecchio," the "Pietà" of Titian, his last picture, begun when he had seen ninety-seven years, and finished by Palma Giovane; and, above all, Titian's famous "Assumption," one of the finest masterpieces of the world.

But memories must wait. There is the Palazzo Rezzonico, once the abode of the family that gave Clement XIII to the Papal throne, the house in which Robert Browning died. And close by, the fifteenth-century Gothic palace of the Foscari rises from the water a little more proudly than the others, as Francesco would have wished. Now come to view the colored *pali* outside the Palazzo Pisani, and almost opposite, across the water, the marble steps of the Palazzo Mocenigo, where Lord Byron lived nigh 100 years ago. You will now see the Palazzo Barbarigo della Terrazza where Titian once lived, and on the other side the homes of the Corner-Spinelli and the Grimani families, and the beautiful Byzantine-Gothic Loredan Palace, and the Palazzo Dandolo on the same Riva del Carbon that once was proud of the house of Enrico Dandolo. Straight before you, full of the life and color of the late afternoon, stretches the graceful old Rialto bridge, which has seen so much of the splendor and festivity of the lagoon city

pass beneath its marble arch in the days and nights of its 300 years. It probably thinks that the Grand Canal is less alive now than it was in the days when on its waters rode 10,000 gondolas, exquisitely beautiful in tapestry and carpet and inlaid stanchions. But the gondola, even though it has become the simple somber caique that the Provveditori delle Pompe deemed extravagant enough for its citizens, still holds its dominion of the water; and if it trembles a bit when the unbeauteous and exotic *vaporetto* passes, it is not in fear that its merry days are over and its whispered poesy a charm unloved.

As your gondolier plies his oar in perfect balance, you speed on past the market landings. Now you glide by that most exquisite of Gothic palaces, the Cà d'Oro, its balconies and arches forever a joy. If you look to the left, you are delighted by one of the finest of the palaces of the late Renaissance, once occupied by the illustrious Pesaro family. And in a moment you are looking upon the stately façade of the house in which Richard Wagner died, the Palazzo Vendramin, most magnificent, perhaps, of the Venetian palaces of the early Renaissance.

These are but a few of the mansions that add glory and grandeur to the central thoroughfare of Venice; but these are the chosen ones that engage your eyes and your thoughts until your gondola crosses the Canal and rests before the steps of the Stazione. Then you say farewell to the gondolier, to the Grand Canal, to all the loveliness of the palaces and the splendors of St. Mark's, and go away, again to cross the lagoon in the fall of the afternoon by the long bridge that beckons the way to Verona.

Indeed you will visit Venice when the war is over. It will call you as it never did in that long ago when the war was not. You will come and you will be enchanted. And when you depart from the city of peace into the mainland world beyond, you will never forget the Venetian days that gave you their all and loved you as a friend. Will you forget the high campanile and the wonderful piazza and the flowering splendor of St. Mark's? Will you never spare a thought for the great Academy and the Ducal Palace where old Venice lives enshrined in the colors of her artists? Will you never search your recollections for the glories of San Zanipolo's or the colorful streets of the Rialto? Will you lose remembrance of the molten sunsets and the crimson-quivering waters and the cool shadows of the violet dusk? There is but one answer, Venice cannot be forgotten, in your heart her place is secure. For through the days to come, and the years, when the world presses too heavily, and its challenge is too insistent, you will often play the wizard with your thoughts, and send them far afield and over-seas to where the lovely island Eden blooms and the beauty of her skies. Many a time you will see yourself in fancy drifting down the broad Canal and seeking the twilight of the little waterways, where the oleanders and the roses hanging over low walls almost touch the glistening blade of your gondola's bow and whisper dreamily as you pass; where the happy little children will watch you from the narrow paths and the low *ponti*, a tiny girl humming a sweet song, a ragged boy pressing a delighted dog to his heart in simple affection. Or you will be crossing the marble courtyard of some old Gothic palace, and passing beneath the ivied balconies, with your fancy all aglow for the songs of love-lorn gallants standing in the star-lit garden near the splashing fountain, pleading with the melody of the lute for the hearts of unseen maidens fair. You will live again in your own precious palace, and often tread the little lane behind that leads to the colonnades and the blazing square, or sit on your narrow veranda facing the waters and watch the procession of ever-present boats up and down the Canal. You will refresh your soul in the silent, peaceful retreats of the lagoons, where the days and nights of now are dreaming of the nights and days of the past. You will joy in the morning market boats filled with the purple

grapes and the scarlet gourds and the ripe melons. You will watch in gladness the butterfly fleet of fishing boats, inviting at eve the coy breezes of the Adriatic, with their orange sails, and crimson, and many a flaming device. You will dream of galleys and sea fights and the spoils of a victor throng, and a line of Venetian idols will pass before you, Dandolo and Carlo Zeno and Vittor Pisani and Tomaso Mocenigo and Colleoni, and the rest. You will linger in spirit through care-free hours on the moon-swept, music-laden piazza, with the night winds blowing from the sea, and the summer languor steeping the air with forgetfulness. You will look in far-flung vision upon the dome of the Salute, glistening white as an angel's wings in the moonbeams, and rising large, beautiful, promising, true to the night and the blue sky and the unceasing tremble of the light-strewn Canal waters. Many a day will fill itself with Venice, blending a mosaic of life, of death, of joy-song, of dirge, of faith, of love, of honor, of victory. Venice of old faced the East and faced the West, and united the two on her little isles; so in the future, wherever you will be, will the city of Desdemona face you and woo you and call you ever back.

But you are leaving this city that has laughed and wept and dreamed and achieved. Tonight when you are far away, she will still be a thing of wonder, beautiful and glorious, a lonely princess of the sea, the lovely maiden matchless of the waters. The moon will silver the sweep of palaces and the breadth of courts, and the fair city, like ancient Camelot, will watch the night in dreams of battles fought and won. You are journeying away now, while the sunlight is glowing all happily, and the air is soft with summer, and the plains are stretching out in fair vision toward the misty hills; but your thoughts dwell back in Venice, where the Canal, like a great artery, is pulsing with the red blood of the sun, and the Ave bells are ringing across the islands of the sea.

COMMUNICATIONS

Letters, as a rule, should not exceed six-hundred words.

Putting It Strongly

To the Editor of AMERICA:

Since I am a constant and enthusiastic reader of AMERICA, I have often met with articles in your excellent review written by Austin O'Malley, M. D. I must say, that whenever I note an article written by the genial doctor, I look forward to a treat, I feel that I am going to read something worth while. No matter what subject he treats, what he touches, he adorns. However, I must confess at the same time, that when I do read his articles, I act in rather a reserved manner, that is, I say to myself, the good doctor does not mean it as strongly as he puts it. It seems to me that he is in the habit of making rather bold assertions, assertions which if he would have to stand pat and prove them, he would fail to substantiate. When reading his article, therefore, I generally prepare myself with that thought in view and during the reading I often recall to my mind that trite and worn phrase so often used in days now past, "*Quod gratis asseritur, gratis negatur.*"

In his brilliant article contained in the issue of April 27 entitled "Are the English Germans" a very interesting and learned article, the good doctor has made some very sweeping statements which cannot stand. I do not think for a moment that Dr. O'Malley is the only one guilty of doing that, it is a very common failing. It is done every day, in our papers, in our periodicals, on the lecture platforms. The tendency is to strive for an impression and in order to make an impression the colors have to be laid on thick and heavy, with little regard sometimes as to the consequence. We lack many things in our days, but we are especially suffering from the lack of logical thought.

The statements I have reference to in this case are found towards the close of the article. He says there: "The Celt is an artist, the German and the German Englishman are tradesmen. All the art of Greece, Italy and France has been Celtic. England and Germany together have never produced a sculptor; Germany has had two painters, Dürer and Holbein, England has had none. German music is not Teutonic, England has no music because she is Teutonic. Then he goes on to say that Germany has had one second-rate poet, namely, Goethe, and a negligible literature. Rather a big mouthful. England he dismisses with the statement that her literature consists of the single man Shakespeare and many absurd claims.

I am afraid that when Austin O'Malley wrote those lines he had on a pair of Celtic spectacles which made him blind to everything but Celticism. Since when have the Celts the monopoly on art? He graciously names two painters to represent Germany but why mention those two? And then Germany has produced no sculptors. I am afraid that it is high time for the good doctor to go back to his books. What about Gothic art, which reached such a high state of perfection in Germany? He styles Goethe a second-rate poet. I should like to know what he understands by a first-rater. If he says that the German literature is negligible, I must accuse him of knowing precious little of that wonderful literature. The statement about England is just as bad. I hope that the learned doctor sets aside at least one hour every day in order to get acquainted with the English classics. Therefore the last part of the article I swallowed "*grano salis*," and it was a mighty large grain too. However I hope to have the pleasure to read many more articles written by Dr. O'Malley.

Terre Haute.

A. R.

Disability Insurance for the Clergy

To the Editor of AMERICA:

At various times diocesan organizations of priests for necessary protective purposes have been formed. Some of these have survived and are fairly successful, but the majority after a period of success, have ceased to exist. One of the principal reasons of failure seems to be that the number of priests in any one diocese is too small to pay adequate benefits, without assessing the members for an amount out of proportion to the amount received in case of disability. Thus far, there has been no definite casualty association for all priests of the country. The priests who desired to protect themselves in case of disability because of sickness or accident, have joined secular companies which were organized avowedly for profit, and who accepted as members, men and women from almost all walks in life. The result has been, that priests, who are for insurance purposes, classified as "preferred," had to pay the rate of protection, that a man had to pay who is classified as "hazardous." All companies add a fixed percentage also for the "moral hazard" i. e. claims which are fraudulently made for disability. In the case of a company operating for clergymen this moral hazard only would be reduced to a minimum, since they are classified as "preferred" both as to physical and moral hazards. Yet when priests join the ordinary health and accident companies no reduction of premium is made to them. Some of the professions have recognized this inequality, and have consequently organized their own protective associations. Amongst these we find principally the physicians and lawyers; their rates for indemnity in case of disability are about half those of the ordinary health and accident companies. The Protestant ministers have several organizations of this kind, and they have also admitted Catholic clergymen.

In view of these facts, and knowing that there is an open field for such an organization, several priests of the diocese of Omaha and several businessmen, have organized the "Clergy

Casualty Company of America," running on broad lines, as a health and accident association for the benefit of all the clergy of the United States and Canada. This company is incorporated under the laws of the State of Nebraska, and has complied with all the requirements of the State Board of Insurance, and is empowered to write insurance for disability caused by disease or accident, or to pay indemnity in case of accidental death. Any priest or member of the Hierarchy or student preparing for the priesthood, or any male Catholic teacher or organist between twenty-one and fifty-five years of age, who is of sound physical health, may become a member.

The company will pay the following benefits: In case of total disability, due to disease or accident, the sum of \$10 per week; in case of partial disability, i. e. where a priest may be sick or injured by accident, but able to perform part of his duties, the sum of \$5 per week; in case of accidental death, \$1,000; in case of loss of both hands or both eyes due to accidental causes, the same amount as the death benefit, viz., \$1,000; in case of accidental loss of one hand or one eye, \$500; in case the insured is totally disabled either by disease or accident for a period of two years, the company will pay \$500. The cost for the above benefits is extremely moderate, namely \$2 as a membership fee, payable only once, and the annual dues of \$12 per year.

Although the amount of weekly indemnity paid by the company is not very great, yet it covers all cases of disability, and it is more in proportion to the annual dues than the benefits of most other companies. Thus it may be seen that a priest who happens to be sick for, v. g., a period of ten weeks, would draw benefits equal to the amount he pays in dues in eight and one-third years. Moreover, the intention was to bring the annual dues within the reach of practically every priest in North America. Another consideration prompted the organizers to make the dues low and the weekly indemnity in proportion, namely, the fact that even though a priest be disabled by sickness or accident, his disability continues, as a general rule, for only a short period, and that his salary from the parish usually is not interrupted, or in the case of an assistant pastor, he continues to receive his monthly allowance. The keynote of the policy is simplicity, without obscure clauses or the many exceptions so frequently found in accident and health policies, the only exceptions to benefits being disabilities arising from causes incompatible with the priestly state. This policy is the only one issued in the United States bearing the following clause: "The Company shall be liable for disability or death by accident incurred by voluntary exposure to danger by priests in the performance of duty." Realizing that priests are called to homes infected with contagious diseases and that they also voluntarily endanger their lives to administer the Sacraments, we have expressly stated our liability in the policy, since other companies invariably insert the clause that their liability ceases where danger is voluntarily incurred.

In order to insure the business-like conduct of affairs, three laymen, experts in their line, one a banker, one an attorney, and the other a physician have been chosen as directors and by their close co-operation will assist in the management of the company. Up-to-the-minute methods of bookkeeping and filing systems have been installed. His Grace, Archbishop J. J. Hart, D. D., the honorary president of the company, has written the following encouraging letter of approbation:

Diocese of Omaha,
April 15th, 1919.

My Dear Father Hettwer:

I have made a study of the policy of "The Clergy Casualty Company of America," about to be established in Omaha to provide indemnity for loss of time on account of illness or accident, and loss of life and limb by accidental means. This policy appeals to me as a wise and a safe investment, based on sound business principles, and managed

by reliable and capable men. I commend it to the careful consideration of the reverend clergy of this diocese. I remain,

My dear Father Hettwer,
Faithfully yours,
J. J. HART,
Archbishop-Bishop of Omaha.

In the short space allotted to me I have endeavored to outline briefly the scope of the organization. Since the C. C. C. is a company of the clergy for the clergy by the clergy, it deserves their patronage. Inquiries or applications for membership should be addressed to: Very Reverend Julius Hettwer, Bishop O'Connor Hall, Omaha, Nebraska.

Omaha.

JULIUS HETTWER.

The Anachronism of Quoting Horace

To the Editor of AMERICA:

Everybody assumes and presumes, these days, and almost invariably does everybody assume and presume wrongly. Now comes AMERICA, a review which, during the ten years of its existence, we all assumed devoted to criticism of the life and literature of the day, to a defense of sound doctrine, quoting in its issue of March 29, *Latin from Horace!* To be sure the quotation appears in a communication, from barbarous Ohio, the land where once roamed the Algonquian, the Ojibwa and the Blackfeet; but that is no excuse why medieval bad manners should be flaunted in the face of modern intellectual Bolshevism. We should expect nothing better from the *Evening Post*, the *Nation*, or the *Atlantic Monthly*; but AMERICA, a Catholic, and accordingly a circumscribed review, should know that the Classics of Ancient Greece and Rome are among the taboos.

Princeton, long a stronghold of the classics, has capitulated to the movement of "dehumanizing the humanites, and de-liberalizing the liberal arts." AMERICA, let it be said again, should know this, and should also know that Yale no longer requires Latin for entrance to the university, and that even Oxford, avowedly, is gradually forcing the classics into the background. But after all, the publication of the quotations in objectionable language is but another instance of benighted Roman persistence in keeping out of tune with modern thought and tendency.

To substantiate the validity of the claims of modern systems against classical lore, I should like to instance an ode from this same Horace. Milton, whom we shall probably soon discard as a stumbling block to aspiring young students of English, called this ode "*Quis multa gracilis*" "pure nectar" and spent days over it trying to translate its form and beauty into his own limpid English. Here it is in its purity as it flowed in liquid beauty from the fountain at Tibur:

Quis multa gracilis te puer in rosa
Perfusus liquidis urget odoribus
Grato, Pyrrha, sub antro?
Cui flavam religas comam,

Simplex munditiis? Heu! quoties fidem
Mutatosque Deos flebit, et aspera
Nigris æquora ventis
Emirabitur insolens,

Qui nunc te fruitur credulus aurea;
Qui semper vacuum, semper amabilem
Sperat, nescius auras
Fallacis. Miseri, quibus

Intentata nites! Me tabula sacer
Votiva paries indicat uvida
Suspendisse potenti
Vestimenta maris Deo.

Is it in its faultless perfection an indictment of the Latin tongue? Men who have, in the teaching of youth, the experience of nearly 400 years behind them, think not, but time is fleeting and changes all things.

Pittsburgh, Pa.

THOS. J. FLAHERTY.

AMERICA

A·CATHOLIC·REVIEW·OF·THE·WEEK

SATURDAY, MAY 17, 1919

Entered as second-class matter, April 15th, 1909, at the Post Office at New York, N. Y., under the Act of March 3d, 1879. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized on June 29, 1918.

Published weekly by the America Press, New York.

President, RICHARD H. TIERNEY; Secretary, JOSEPH HUSSEIN;
Treasurer, FRANCIS A. BREEN

SUBSCRIPTIONS, POSTPAID:

United States, 10 cents a copy; yearly, \$3.00
Canada, \$3.50 Europe, \$4.00

Address:

THE AMERICA PRESS, 173 East 83d Street, New York, N. Y., U. S. A.
CABLE ADDRESS: CATHREVIEW
Stamps should be sent for the return of rejected manuscripts.

Father Hughes

THE American Church has just sustained a heavy loss by the death in New York of the Very Rev. John Hughes, Superior General of the Paulist Fathers. Still in his prime, he was caught up from labor and the sorrows of earth by the hand of God who appeared more anxious that His servant should receive the reward of merit than that he should continue his heroic work in the harvest field. And this in spite of the fact that the services of Father Hughes were never more needed than now, in this age of new and strange problems that will vex many intellects and harass many wills. For the late Paulist was a man of keen perception not only, but of a fine personality, also, that united strength and simplicity in a way that attracted men to him and kept them at his side, bound by the ties of admiration and affection. Moreover, he had at hand, as coworkers in a great cause, a devoted band of priests who have already done so magnificent a service for the Church, that praise, however great, would obscure rather than magnify their labors. Leaders in missionary endeavor, they have scattered the seed of the Gospel in the remotest corner of the United States and Canada. They have gone to places where priests were a hissing and a by-word, and there with all the courage born of the spirit of God have preached Christ and Him crucified to a strange and hostile people. They sensed the need of America, the need that some 62,000,000 unchurched people have of God and they determined to bring Christ to those empty hearts, in order that both the individual and the State might be saved from shipwreck.

Back of this great work with its thousand and one ramifications capped by the Apostolic Mission House in Washington, stood the gentle, smiling, hospitable Father Hughes, apparently care-free, yet weighted with labors, directing men and movements with a consummate skill

that ensured the great success which has always marked Paulist endeavor.

But now Father Hughes is no more; the American Church is bereft of a great and a good man, the Paulists of a leader who served them faithfully for many years. He is gone, but his spirit remains to console and guide those whom he has left behind. And for their labors in His behalf, God will be merciful to them and give them another Father Hughes to direct them in their endeavors to spread the kingdom of Christ on earth, so that the word Paulist will continue to suggest the holy, enlightened zeal that in the past has done so much to brighten dark spots in our beloved country.

The Cry of the Tyrant

THE cry of the tyrant is on the air, once again, and of all places, in Britain, a land which fought for the freedom of small nations so valiantly that it all but disrupted itself. Yet, strange as it may appear, England is now protesting vociferously against the grant of liberty to one small nation, Ireland, that helped her win the war. But, after all, is England at fault, or her Bourbons only, the ruling class that never forgets and never learns?

It is impossible to think that the great mass of the English people are so blind to justice and to their own safety that they have joined in the present howl against the Irish-American delegates who are trying in a legitimate way to bring relief to a nation that has been maltreated for 800 years. Surely, British Labor, at least, sees the rising tide on which Ireland rides manacled, before the eyes of the world. And, surely too, English Laborites realize that Ireland's condition is a reproach to their boasted ideals of justice and charity, a reproach, indeed, that a free world will not tolerate too long.

But in that event how dare the London *Post* protest the visit of the American delegates to Ireland in these words so grossly insulting to the Chief Executive of the United States?

If it is true that Mr. Wilson is behind this intrigue against the union of the United Kingdom—and after the President's behavior toward Italy anything is credible—the American Ambassador ought to be told that the United Kingdom does not tolerate interference in its domestic affairs. They are our business and the business of nobody else.

That surely is a puzzle which is only magnified by this crude misstatement of fact, from the London *Graphic*:

If any of the States of America were again to demand the right to secede from the Union it is certain the American people would be bitterly indignant if such a demand received any kind of official encouragement from Great Britain. We apply the same standard of judgment to American interference in our affairs.

What has British Labor to say to this? Will it continue to shout for liberty in Iceland, Finland, Bohemia, Serbia, Croatia, Bosnia, Herzegovina, Slovenia, Posen, Lithuania, Galicia, Moldavia, while the foot of the tyrant is on Ireland's "neck"?

Starving Children of Yugo-Slavia

THERE is laughter in Belgium today, not on the part of mothers and fathers; they have long forgotten what laughter means and must needs learn the lesson again; not on the part of the land; a kindly nature must cover its desolate ruins before it can smile once more. Yet the most joyous music in all the world is ringing through Cardinal Mercier's country, the lilt of the voices of children at play, chattering with the care free exuberance of youth and health. And the consequence? Tiny fingers are smoothing away deep-graved lines of care, little feet are dancing their twinkling light into faded eyes, and happiness is stealing back, unaccustomed and almost afraid, into hearts from which joy once seemed to have fled forever. For where there are children there are home and hope and a motive for life.

We can never be grateful enough that to us in the United States, and to our children, was given the blessed privilege of saving from starvation the sons and daughters of the heroes who died to save the world from tyranny.

But alas, for war's innocent victims! Only now do we learn that other children are starving, the children of the Yugo-Slavs. They are reaching out pitiful hands across the sea, begging a pittance out of our abundance, asking for food that they may not die. All that the children of Belgium were saved from, the little ones of Yugo-Slavia are in danger of suffering. We can do nothing for the men who were hung on crosses, nothing for those who were found on the hillsides, gaunt and rigid in death, from want of food; but we can help their pitiful children. The fair hopes of a rising nation, whose independence is guaranteed by the terms of the world-peace, will be vain, if its children are to die crying for milk, or to live on, hopelessly weakened for want of so poor a thing as a crust of bread. Aid must be given to the children of Yugo-Slavia, and that quickly, if the country is to be saved from ruin. And from whom can help come more expeditiously and more generously than from us who have already shown the world that a child's cry of pain is a command to our charity? Fortunately the machinery for this work of mercy is already set up in New York, in the form of the American Yugo-Slav Relief, 511 Fifth Avenue, New York, a society formed and managed by upstanding, fair-minded men and women who, instead of managing and distributing the funds received, transmit the money to Mr. Herbert Hoover to be turned into food for the hungry mouths of thousands of unfortunate children, the recent victims of war. Can any person steel his soul against such an appeal?

Lynchers and Vigilantes

A NATIONAL conference to protest against the grave crime of lynching in the United States was recently held in New York, a sign that the conscience of the country has been aroused to this monstrous form of murder. During the last thirty years more than 3,000

men and women have thus been mercilessly put to death amid circumstances often no less outrageous than those attending the most debased crimes committed amid the horrors of war. The past year has again given its quota of 100 mob murders, perpetrated almost with impunity, in the midst of domestic peace. No one will ever be able to tell how many of these victims were innocent of the misdeeds attributed to them. But whether guilty or innocent they were entitled to a fair trial at least. The negative encouragement given to these orgies of savagery by the authorities who have been solemnly entrusted with the safeguarding of the law, is one of the blackest stains upon our national honor. Investigation itself is often neglected where the murderers could readily be brought to justice, and punishment, when administered, is seldom made to fit the crime. But there is another phase of this question. A tendency has been shown in many instances during late years of settling labor troubles in the same mob spirit. Because the victims may at times have been but little deserving of our sympathy, the press and the public are apt to overlook the serious harm done by condoning such acts. On the very night that the National Convention on Lynching gathered in Carnegie Hall to listen to the declaration of Mr. Hughes that: "Little can be done in the cause of international justice unless nations establish strongly and securely the foundations of justice within their own borders," a mob of masked men, strongly armed, forced the bellboy at Needham Hotel in Lawrence to point out to them the rooms occupied by strike leaders. Two only of the latter could be found. They were taken from their beds and brought in automobiles to the woods in Andover. There one was threatened with death should he return to Lawrence, while the other was beaten to the full extent of his endurance and then left to wander about, clad in his night garments only. A halter had been placed around his neck as an effective warning against his return. It would be difficult to devise a more successful way of encouraging the most radical element in the labor world than by thus dealing with their leaders in defiance of the law. If guilty they should be punished, and punished promptly by legal means.

Yet it is not on the ground of expediency that such measures of mob violence are to be condemned and their perpetrators brought to summary justice, but on the ground of law and order. Defiance of authority is equally reprehensible by whatever side it is practised. There is but one way of permanently settling labor troubles, so far as this is possible at all, and that is by securing full recognition of the just rights of labor and by promoting among rich and poor alike the Gospel of Christ.

Catholic Action

CATHOLICS in the United States have got into pleasant ways of self-complacency. We have done so much, erected so many churches, built so many schools

and colleges, grown so rapidly in numbers, and withal have lived on terms of such good-fellowship with those not of the Faith, that we are apt to indulge in not unlaudable pride in past and present achievements, and, what is very regrettable, we make comparisons, all to our credit, between what we have done or are doing and what is being done in other countries. A glance at the achievements of Catholics in other lands will make us more modest.

Within the past few years Holland has established diplomatic relations with the Vatican; England has her Envoy Extraordinary at the Holy See; Portugal, rising from the chaos of repeated revolutions, has her Minister Plenipotentiary at the Papal Court; China has petitioned for an official representative of the Pope at Peking; Switzerland has not only welcomed special legates from the Supreme Pontiff, but is reported to have entertained projects for a permanent exchange of ministers; even Italy is feeling its way towards a solution of the Roman question; reconciliation with Pontifical Rome is a matter of burning discussion in France; Alsace-Lorraine has unexpectedly called a halt on the process of laicization confidently launched by an atheistic government; and all this has been accomplished, to a large extent against great odds and in spite of vigorous opposition, by systematic, forceful, consistent, united Catholic action.

Disunion played an important part in the subordina-

tion of Catholic principles and the triumph of Liberalism; union, cohesion, a common purpose pursued by common means are now making themselves felt, slowly perhaps and with discouraging pain, but surely, nevertheless. The call to Catholic action issued by Pope Pius X on June 11, 1905, is at last bearing fruit, and the same purpose which has animated the Italians in their endeavors to restore to civilization the Christian State is manifesting itself wherever there are Catholics with breadth of view and courage of conviction. The Pope's appeal is stirring the heart of Catholicism in the United States, and the realization is coming home to us that if we would save our country from drifting into the devious politics that have de-Christianized the statecraft of Europe, we must rouse ourselves from our present apathy and our absurd optimism and effect some means of corporate action for translating our aspirations into deeds.

We may not be entirely disunited; but how far we are from effective union is clear from the fact that all we seem to be able to do in the presence of the menace of the Smith bill, is to bleat, here and there, like foolish, helpless, timid lambs, and this though we number 19,000,000. A little effort now, and we can save from destruction the school system we have built up with such labor and expense. If we sit idly by and let things take their course we shall long lament our inexcusable negligence. Why are we doing nothing? Why are our leaders silent?

Literature

THE NOVELS OF BOOTH TARKINGTON

IN the December, 1918, issue of the *Dublin Review*, its editor says that the definitive type of American has not yet arrived; he will be due about the year 2,000. I believe that the editor is very wrong. The definitive type of American has been with us in the Middle West for some time. Geographically he ranges from the Ohio to the Missouri, and his literary habitat is in the novels of Booth Tarkington. I do not deny that Daniel Voorhees Pike in "The Man From Home," and most of the characters in Tarkington's short-stories are Americans. But the narrow limits of the drama and the short-story keep them from growing into the full-statured Americans pictured in "The Magnificent Ambersons," "The Turmoil," "The Flirt," "Seventeen," "Penrod," "The Guest of Quesnay," "The Conquest of Canaan," and "The Gentleman From Indiana."

In all of these novels the characters are far more interesting than the plots. Tarkington in fact is distinctly poor in plots except in "The Turmoil" and "The Magnificent Ambersons." After the first few chapters in "The Guest of Quesnay" the future of the plot must be clear to most readers. Helen Sherwood's superhuman ability as a newspaper editor, without previous training is not the only thing that strains our credulity in "The Gentleman From Indiana." Joe Loudon's "Conquest of Canaan" is somewhat miraculous; "Seventeen" and "The Flirt" abound in situations that are not very plausible.

But if Tarkington's plot construction is feeble, it is more than atoned for by the variety and excellence of his characters. Bibbs Sheridan in "The Turmoil," William Baxter in "Seventeen," Joe Loudon in "The Conquest of Canaan," Richard Lindley in "The Flirt," the great Harkless in "The Gentleman From Indiana," Eugene Morgan and George Am-

berson Minafer in "The Magnificent Ambersons," are as distinguished a set of characters as can be found in the whole field of American fiction. These, however, are principal characters and so their excellence is less a matter for surprise. There is more cause for amazement when we consider the perfection of the minor characters such as the old gossip Arp in "The Conquest of Canaan" or Hedrick Madison in "The Flirt," Jane in "Seventeen," Aunt Fanny in "The Magnificent Ambersons," or all the Afro-Americans from Uncle Zen in "The Gentleman From Indiana" to the butler in "The Turmoil." As for Tarkington's women characters, it can be safely said that as a rule they are nobler-minded than those of other American novelists.

What is the cause of Tarkington's successful character-drawing? It is his genius for seeing the sunshine as well as the shadow in life. It is because he is not infected with the prevalent vice of modern literary art, the vice of having eyes for nothing but evil, the vice of being certain only of deformity and of being doubtful or ignorant of virtue and harmony. It is because he has other certitudes besides this dismal and ever-pealing wail of modern fiction, "There is evil in the world." Yes, there is evil in the world. But it is just as certain that there is good in the world. And it is this important certitude which so many novelists lack that Tarkington possesses. Vice reminds him that virtue exists just as shadows tell him the sun is shining. Consequently his outlook on life is positive rather than negative, sane, normal and wholesome rather than abnormal and gloomy.

On a level with his powerful character-drawing is his talent for description, whether of small town or large city or rural scenery in the Middle West. Tarkington makes literature of the most ordinary and commonplace matters. The strange

architectural diseases that break out in a residence district that has been invaded by shops, the lobbies of country hotels, the cast-iron dogs or deer that used to stare so fixedly from the lawns of opulent city dwellers, the flowers that border a country road: all these he describes with undeniable charm. The initial chapter in several of his novels is remarkable for its descriptive elements. Indeed, a valuable little book of essays could be made simply by binding together in one volume the first chapters of "The Flirt," "The Gentleman From Indiana," "The Conquest of Canaan" and "The Guest of Quesnay."

In his earlier books Tarkington idealized, after the fashion of his friend Riley, the good folk of the Hoosier State. "*Beatus ille*," that epode of Horace describing the joys of a country life, might be applied to the earlier characters of Tarkington. Blessed people he described, that kept the even tenor of their way far removed from the sordid trickery of cities, people who stored away in their barns the golden corn and pumpkins and talked politics even after they were dead. But a change came over the descendants of these guileless Hoosiers. Their towns darkened into great cities clothed in sooty mist; their streets that once were comfortably populous with jogging dobbins, now trembled under the impact of heavy trucks and the tread of hurrying multitudes; the people changed with their surroundings. They became harder and wealthier and worshiped Mammon day and night. They were so anxious about growing bigger that they cared not about growing better. Their creed was:

We must grow! We must be Big! We must be Bigger! Bigness means Money! And the thing began to happen; their longing became a mighty Will. We must be Bigger! Bigger! Get people here! Coax them here! Bribe them! Swindle them into coming if you must, but get them! Shout them into coming! Deafen them into coming! Any kind of people; all kinds of people! We must be Bigger! Blow! Boost! Brag! Kill the fault-finder! Scream and bellow to the Most High: Bigness is patriotism and honor! Bigness is love and life and happiness! Bigness is Money! We want Money.

"The Turmoil" describes the people who have the creed quoted above. It tells how Bibbs Sheridan the idealist is broken by the pressure of life in one of the cities that worshiped the god of Bigness. It tells how the love of Mary Vertrees finally helps him to bear up under the life in the machine-shop, and how he finally succumbs to the lure of the god of Bigness, and ends by getting hard-faced like all the rest of the actors in the headlong drama. Apropos of this excellent novel, Mr. Robert C. Holliday in his "Booth Tarkington" remarks:

"The Turmoil" has first, last and all the time, the nervous vitality of life. It has this to a degree far and away beyond any other of Mr. Tarkington's books. A sense of the vibration of the press of life from all four sides is conveyed in a measure beyond that to be felt in any other American novel that can readily be named. In its signal presentation of the brunt of American life today, "The Turmoil," one is tempted to say, is the most successful approximation in sight to the thing prophesied in that venerable mirage, the Great American Novel.

That was written, however, shortly before "The Magnificent Ambersons" came to gladden the hearts of all lovers of American fiction, but the passage seems to apply equally well to both novels, for they are without question their author's best work.

In "The Turmoil" then Tarkington became what he was all along destined to be, the critic of contemporary American life. And although he is not an idealogue like Mr. Wells, although his characters are not phonographic automatons like Wells's still he has some deep thoughts scattered here and there in "The Turmoil" and "The Magnificent Ambersons." Meredith Nicholson, in his recent book, "The Valley of Democracy," philosophizes on the Middle Westerners, and still falls short of the penetration of Tarkington's *obiter dicta*. Meredith talks of the "folksiness" of the Middle Westerners expressed in "sturdy independence, hostility to capitalistic influence and a

proneness to social and political experiment." That is putting it rather benevolently and untruly. This is what Tarkington says about the social and political experiment:

The politicians let the people make all the laws they like; it did not matter much, and the taxes went up, which is good for politicians. Lawmaking was a pastime of the people; nothing pleased them more. Singular fermentation of their humor, they even had laws forbidding dangerous speed. More marvelous still, they had a law forbidding smoke. They forbade chimneys to smoke and they forbade cigarettes to smoke. They made laws for all things and forgot them immediately; though sometimes they would remember after a while, and hurry to make new laws that the old should be enforced—and then forget both new and old. Wherever enforcement threatened money or votes or wherever it was too much bother, it became a joke. Influence was the law.

That is sharp and true social diagnosis. Still, "The Turmoil," in which the passage occurs, is not "sociology" at all, but a good story.

Tarkington is the "great American novelist" for many reasons. Most of his characters are healthy, sane, normal men and women like most Americans. They come from "The Valley of Democracy." They are contemporary rather than historical, evoking scenes that we have witnessed and people we have seen. They are critical, but their criticism extends only to what can easily be emended. Finally they are as versatile as Tarkington himself, who has succeeded in romance, as "Monsieur Beaucaire" proves, in drama as is attested by "The Man From Home," and in realistic novels as "The Turmoil" and "The Magnificent Ambersons" so amply demonstrate.

ALFRED G. BRICKEL, S. J.

SWALLOW SONG

When we were young we chose the way we'd be,
You on the swallow's path across the world,
Cities and hills and men, the Pope on his throne to see,
I'd have a house in a glen where a brown brook purled.

Now in the even-tide you sit at a hearth of your own,
Golden the heads of your lads in the glancing light,
Far enough is your thought from the Pope on his golden throne;
And I with the road before me, and the night.

BLANCHE M. KELLY.

REVIEWS

Compendium Theologiae Moralis. Editio Vicesima Septima, Ad Novum Codicem Juris Canonici Concinnata. A TIMOTHY BARRETT, S. J. Neo Eboraci: Frederick Pustet Co., Inc.

This compendium of moral theology for more than a quarter of a century has been a vade-mecum for the American priest. From the time of its first publication in 1884 it has had an established place in the seminaries and the libraries of active workers on the mission, for its conciseness makes it peculiarly adapted both for the classroom and for ready reference by the busy pastor. When the first European edition appeared in 1891 it was welcomed not merely for the thoroughness of its exposition of general principles but also for its application of them to local conditions arising out of legislation, ecclesiastical and civil, in the United States. To this exposition of general principles in the light of American requirements, Father Sabetti added unremitting care in revision. Not only did he eliminate from his book everything which lapse of time or change of circumstances or ecclesiastical enactments had made obsolete in former moral theologies or in former editions of his own work, but he contrived by ceaseless diligence to keep his book abreast of the times, in conformity with the latest decrees and declarations of the Sacred Congregations and also made it a point to provide solutions for the new problems constantly perplexing the modern confessor. Father Barrett has preserved these same characteristics, so that the reasons which were responsible for the book's initial success, have secured for it a continued popularity.

Twenty-seven editions in thirty-five years is a remarkable record for any book, it is almost incredible in a book of so technical a character and of so limited a demand as a moral theology; but it would appear that the end is not yet, for the entire present issue with the exception of a few hundred copies was disposed of before the pages were off the press. The preceding edition had brought the book up to date, it included treatment of such modern subjects as vasectomy, the drug-habit, sex-instruction, the new marriage legislation and the duties of parents with regard to moving-pictures. The present edition has been completely revised so as to bring it into conformity with the New Code. Some parts have been rewritten, and wherever it has been practicable, the canons have been incorporated into the text. The method of question and answer is still preserved with this difference that the response is often given in the actual words of the Code, quoted in black-face type so as to be distinguishable at a glance. The size of the volume as a consequence might be expected to have grown considerably, in point of fact the text is somewhat smaller. What enhances its value very much is the *elenchus canonum* and the new index which is very complete and detailed, covering 120 pages.

The book as in former editions bears the names of Gury, Sabetti and Barrett. Father Sabetti was a disciple of the learned Gury, the father of modern moralists, and Father Barrett in turn was the pupil of Father Sabetti; and the same spirit of loyalty to his old professor which made the original author of the work retain the name of Gury has also lead the actual author to keep the name of Father Sabetti. The double authorship, aside from its twofold authority, has a significance of historical development; but the book is in its present form so largely attributable to Father Barrett that the main credit for it must be given to him. J. H. F.

Blood and Sand (*Sangre Arena*). Translated from the Spanish by Mrs. W. A. GILLESPIE. With an Introduction by ISAAC GOLDBERG. **The Shadow of the Cathedral** (*La Catedral*). Translated from the Spanish by Mrs. W. A. GILLESPIE. With an Introduction by W. D. HOWELLS. New York: E. P. Dutton & Co.

The Cabin (*La Barraca*). Translated from the Spanish by FRANCIS HAFKINE SNOW and BEATRICE M. MEKOTA. With an Introduction by JOHN GARRETT UNDERHILL. New York: Alfred Knopf. All by VICENTE BLASCO IBANEZ.

The gifts of the story-teller which Mr. Ibanez possesses are in many ways of the highest order. He seldom reaches the crystalline depths of tenderness or pathos, but he has a grim and fierce power, a capacity for building up a scene of relentless horror and unrelieved gloom which Zola at his best or his worst did not surpass. The pictures for instance of the bull-fights in "Blood and Sand" are terrifying when they are not loathsome. Perhaps we could find some excuse for the author when he thus depicts the saturnalia of the national sport of the Spanish people. It is true that the sport is not so popular in the country as foreigners are made to believe, and that in the whole of Spain it has perhaps barely twenty-thousand regular devotees, "aficionados" or "fans." But these are a noisy and vulgar element. But if the sport, even if the number of spectators be on the whole relatively small, is anything like the disgusting spectacle pictured by the novelist, it is time for a people, as chivalrous and as universally refined as the Spaniard to do away with the bull-ring entirely. In spite of many apologies in its favor, we cannot imagine that it can be anything but degrading. Mr. Ibanez depicts in "Blood and Sand" the career of the hero of the bull-ring, Juan Gallardo, the idol of the populace as long as he keeps his nerve and can thrust his rapier deep into the vitals of the charging bull, but hooted by them and abandoned by the wretched woman for whose sake he breaks his marriage vows, when his hand forgets its cunning and his heart its courage, he is killed

at last in the arena by the final onslaught of a wounded animal. The novelist might have saved us certain details and innuendoes but on the whole the work is a powerful indictment of a national weakness.

Catholics will indignantly resent the underlying idea of the "Shadow of the Cathedral." The "Shadow" is an equally fierce but this time unjust indictment of the Catholic religion, as fierce as that odious work of Perez Galdos "*Dona Perfecta*" though more open. In the idea of the writer, the Cathedral is outwardly splendid, massive and strong, and the traditions of ages cling to it but it is wasting to decay. In its shadow men and morals are blighted, intellectual and social life are withered. Under its arches and porticos a sordid tragedy of crime and sin is being played which like the tragedy of "Blood and Sand" closes in disaster and ruin. The animus of the book is not only anti-Catholic it is a protest against religion in general.

In "The Cabin," we have the same atmosphere of gloom and tragedy which mark the other books. But the note of direct revolt against religion is absent. "*La Barraca*" is a protest against certain social conditions prevailing in the Valencian territory. It is the story of what might be called a Spanish vendetta. A curse rests upon certain fields and the Jewish usurers who owned them and the peasants who come to till them, and who at first succeed in their toil, gradually come under the spell of the curse. The Jew is killed, the honest laborer and his family who dare settle on the land through the threats and jealousy, the treachery of their neighbors see their child die, see house and home wrapped in flames, are finally driven to abandon the "Cabin" forced into poverty by the grinding power of the rich and the insane jealousy and rivalry of the poor. It is a story of almost unrelieved gloom, but it is impossible to deny its power. Mr. Ibanez is a pessimist. The pictures he draws of Spain and its people are not flattering. It is to be hoped that he will not be recognized as the only master who can give us authoritative pictures of life in the peninsula, and that by the works of men like Pereda and Alarcon readers will recognize the sunnier side of Spanish life.

J. C. R.

BOOKS AND AUTHORS

Those who would like to read how the valiant Gilles de Crohin, Sire de Froimont, went to Cambrai in 1578 to woo as the Duke of Anjou's masked proxy the fair Jacqueline de Brayart, how bravely he defended the city against the Spanish and how, like another John Alden, he won Madame Jacqueline for himself, will find the whole story told in the Baroness Orczy's "Flower o' the Lily, a Romance of Old Cambray" (Doran). Gilles is so good a swordsman that he can easily keep at bay six cavaliers who attack him in the dark and he is so resourceful that he circumvents at every turn the Spanish suitor for Jacqueline's hand. The story is full of action and movement, every chapter has its thrill and the book is clean besides—Patrick MacGill dedicates to his "own people" "Glenmornan" (Doran), his recent novel of Irish life, but they are not likely to feel much beholden to him for the honor. The book's central figure is Doalty Gallagher, a young London journalist who returns to his native glen, courts the belle of the village, makes "copy" out of his simple fellow-countrymen's characteristics, insults the priest, is "read from the altar" and in consequence is forced to leave the village. The reader will suspect the book of being autobiographical. Coarse passages abound and the Irish priesthood is bitterly attacked.—The best things in Lucy Fitch Perkins's book, "Cornelia, the Story of a Benevolent Despot" (Houghton, Mifflin) are the author's drawings of the "heroine," a tiresome little prig much addicted to "uplift." The author should go back to her amiable sets of "Twins."

Every phase of the war produced its book, and so we had

books on submarines and aeroplanes and naval warfare and land fights. We had fact and fiction, fancy and fun. Not much has been written of the patriot at home who conserved sugar, and bought bonds, and lived on substitutes, and paid taxes, and knit socks—good people all. This material George Allen England covers, in an interesting style, and with delicious humor, in "Keep Off the Grass" (Small, Maynard), a series of letters of intended absurdity.—Dorothy Canfield's new war-book "The Day of Glory" (Holt) contains six papers, the first of which, called "The Edge" is an admirable description of the life led by a patriotic young French woman with six children to take care of, while her husband repels the invader. Then comes a detailed account of what a woman physician did at the front. "Lourdes" is an impressionistic sketch of what takes place at Our Lady's Shrine. The author records no cures. The three remaining chapters chronicle the American soldier's opinion of France and the war, and describes how Paris behaved on the day of the armistice.—"Our First Ten Thousand" (The Four Seas Co.) by Sergeant Chester Walton Jenks, is a straightforward, manly account of what an American soldier saw, felt and thought on his journey to France, and during his stay in that country.—Only a professor of philosophy with a sense of humor will appreciate "The Biology of War" (Century) by G. F. Nicolai. This large serious-looking volume faces the reader with the hypothesis that all men form one large organism evolving to a state of "supermanhood," and then bristles with tickling statements right to the tip of its imposing bibliographical tail. As a cell in the organism, the author feels the influence of war in its growth, and asserts that war will cease when humanity accepts the new set of commandments which he outlines best on this side of the bibliographical tail. The names of many books are mentioned—even Darwin's. But it was Darwin who wrote, "I begin to think that everyone who publishes a book is a fool," a statement with which even the philosophizing clowns of Hamlet could now agree.

Two contributors to the April number of the *Catholic Choir-master* make just and spirited attacks on unscrupulous publishers who have fostered the use of a "secular and operatic style of music in the Catholic Church for mercenary reasons pure and simple." In an article entitled "The Sacrilege of the Organ Loft" Nicola A. Montani gives us "exhibits" of photographic reproductions of operatic love-songs "arranged for Catholic use" at Mass and Benediction, and M. Colas reviews the new edition of "St. Basil's Hymnal," calling attention to dozens of airs in the book which, owing to their unliturgical character or unseemly associations, should never be heard in a Catholic church.—"A Mass in Honor of St. Elizabeth for Mixed Voices, with Organ" (Kaufman Co., Seattle), composed by P. A. Kaufman, has been passed on by the Church Music Commission of the diocese of Seattle as meeting with the requirements of the *Motu Proprio*. It contains no serious difficulties for an ordinary church choir, and should prove interesting and devotional.—"Catholic Hymns for the People" (Catholic Music Press, Wilton, Wis.) is a collection of hymns and tunes drawn from Catholic sources for the use of the Faithful on the various feasts of the ecclesiastical year, and edited by James Martin Raker. Many of the hymns are old friends, some rather new to ordinary hymn-books, and all are selected with discrimination.

The two following poems entitled "Spring" and "The Sea and the Skylark" are characteristic and seasonable lyrics from the recently published "Poems of Gerard Manley Hopkins" (Oxford University Press), the English Jesuit whose works have been edited and annotated by his friend the Poet Laureate:

Nothing is so beautiful as spring—
When weeds, in wheels, shoot long and lovely and lush;
Thrush's eggs look little low heavens, and thrush
Through the echoing timber does so rinse and wring

The ear, it strikes like lightnings to hear him sing;
The glassy peartree leaves and blooms, they brush
The descending blue; that blue is all in a rush
With richness; the racing lambs too have fair their fling.

What is all this juice and all this joy?
A strain of the earth's sweet being in the beginning
In Eden garden.—Have, get, before it cloy,
Before it cloud, Christ, lord, and sour with sinning,
Innocent mind and Mayday in girl and boy,
Most, O maid's child, thy choice and worthy the winning.

On ear and ear two noises too old to end
Trench—right, the tide that ramps against the shore;
With a flood or a fall, low lull-off or all roar,
Frequenting there while moon shall wear and wend.

Left hand, off land, I hear the lark ascend,
His rash-fresh re-winded new-skeined score
In crisps of curl off wild winch whirl and pour
And pelt music, till none's to spill nor spend.

How these two shame this shallow and frail town!
How ring right out our sordid turbid time,
Being pure! We, life's pride and cared-for crown,

Have lost that cheer and charm of earth's past prime:
Our make and making break, are breaking, down
To man's last dust, drain fast towards man's first slime.

BOOKS RECEIVED

- Allyn & Bacon, Boston:**
El Reino de los Incas del Peru. Arranged from the text of "Los Comentarios Reales de los Incas," of the Inca Garcilaso de la Vega. Edited with Vocabulary and Notes. By James Bardin. \$1.00
El Pajaro Verde. Por Juan Valera. Edited with Introduction, Notes, Exercises and Vocabulary. By M. A. De Vitis. \$0.60.
- Richard C. Badger, Boston:**
Mary, the Mother of Jesus. By Houston W. Lowry. \$1.00; Contemporary Spanish Dramatists. Plays by Pérez Galdos, Linares Rivas Marquina, Zamacois, Dicenta and the Alvarez Quinteros. Translated into English with an Introduction. By Charles Alfred Turrell. \$2.50; Four Modern Religious Movements. By Arthur Haire Forster. \$1.00.
- Benziger Brothers, New York:**
Preparation for Marriage. Necessary Questions and Explanations for Pastors, According to the New Code of Canon Law. By Rev. J. A. McHugh, O. P., S. T. Lr. \$0.60.
- Boni & Liveright, New York:**
The Dramatic Story of Old Glory. By Samuel Abbott. \$1.60; British Labor and the War. By Paul U. Kellogg and Arthur Gleason. \$2.00; Ten Days that Shook the World. By John Reed. \$2.00. The Moon of the Caribbees and Six Other Plays of the Sea. By Eugene G. O'Neill. \$1.35; Traveling Companions. By Henry James. \$1.75; The Erotic Motive in Literature. By Albert Mordell. \$1.75.
- Silver, Burdett & Co., Boston:**
The First Six Books of the Aeneid of Vergil. With Introduction, Notes and Vocabulary and Passages for Sight Translation. By Harry E. Burton, Ph. D.; The Progressive Road to Reading. Book Four. By George Burchill, William L. Ettinger, Edgar Dubbs Shimer. Illustrated by Harriet O'Brien.
- Carmelite Convent, Victor Street, St. Louis:**
St. Teresa's Book-Mark, a Meditative Commentary. By Rev. Father Luke of St. Joseph, Discalced Carmelite. Translated by a Friend for Carmel of St. Louis.
- George H. Doran Co., New York:**
Candles That Burn. By Aline Kilmer. \$1.25; Midas and Son. By Stephen McKenna. \$1.60.
- Doubleday, Page & Co., Garden City, N. Y.:**
Mexico Under Carranza. A Lawyer's Indictment of the Crowning Infamy of Four Hundred Years of Misrule. By Thomas Edward Gibbon. \$1.50.
- E. P. Dutton Co., New York:**
A New Study of English Poetry. By Henry Newbolt, M. A., D. Litt. \$3.00.
- The Four Seas Co., Boston:**
Nowadays. By Lord Dunsany; Painting. By W. A. Sinclair.
- Harper & Brothers, New York:**
The Society of Free States. By Dwight W. Morrow. \$1.25.
- Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston:**
Adventures in Propaganda. Letters from an Intelligence Officer in France. By Heber Blankenborn. \$1.50; Democracy in Reconstruction. Edited by Frederick A. Cleveland and Joseph Schafer. \$2.50; Cornelia, the Story of a Benevolent Despot. By Lucy Fitch Perkins. With Illustrations by the Author. \$1.25; Labrador Days. Tales of the Sea Toilers. By Wilfred Thomason Grenfell, M. D. \$1.50.
- Illinois Centennial Commission, Springfield:**
The Era of the Civil War, 1848-1870. By Arthur Charles Cole. The Centennial History of Illinois. Vol. III.
- Longmans, Green & Co., New York:**
The Return of the "Mayflower." An Interlude. By Rendel Harris. \$1.00.
- Lothrop, Lee & Shepard Co., Boston:**
Good Old Stories for Boys and Girls. Selected by Elva S. Smith. Pictures by L. J. Bridgman. \$1.50; Rainbow Island. By Edna A. Brown. Illustrated. By John Goss. \$1.50.
- The Macmillan Co., New York:**
The Hills of Desire. By Richard Aumerle Maher. \$1.50.
- The Oxford University Press, New York:**
Poems of Gerard Manley Hopkins, Now First Published. Edited with Notes by Robert Bridges, Poet Laureate. \$5.65; Destroyers and Other Verses. By Henry Head, M. D., F. R. S. \$2.00.

EDUCATION

Catholics and Art

IT has been said of Francis Thompson and Lionel Johnson that they received their widest appreciation from those to whom their faith and ideals were most alien. The same can be said generally of the Catholic artist. Art is the heritage of the Catholic Church, and as such should be known and appreciated by her children. It was she who brought art forth from the chaos and ruin that followed the decline of pagan civilization and called it to assist in spreading the Faith. Henry Giles in one of his admirable lectures says that early Christianity could not have been in any extent a religion that could be learned, as now, from books; nor was it a religion of documents, but was imparted by means of oral teaching and visible impression, by symbolic rites and the delineation of sacred persons and events. And so from the days of the catacombs we find artists putting before the eyes of the people all the mysteries of faith. To do this they had to look to Heaven for their inspiration and their masterpieces were the result.

OUR FAMILY TREASURES

IT has taken the great World-War with its wanton destruction of cathedrals, enshrining paintings of the most distinguished masters, to bring before the public the vastness of Europe's art treasures, thus necessarily showing the Catholic Church as the one great inspiration in Christian art. The want of knowledge and appreciation by Catholics of their own art has been deplorable. How many are there who could tell you that Fra Angelico, of whom Michael Angelo, in admiration of his painting of angels, said: "The man that could have painted these must have seen them in Heaven," was a Dominican friar? It is not necessary, however, to go back to the fourteenth century to find an artist whose work is unappreciated by the vast majority of his own people. Let us take one of our own day. John La Farge is recognized by "outsiders" as having done more for art in America than perhaps any other individual. A recent critic writes of his figures: "They live and breathe in the atmosphere of their surroundings; they are placed *in* atmosphere and not *against* it; they move and are moved by a physical life." A wonderful gift, and one attained by few moderns! Yet how many Catholics know and appreciate the work of this their brother, who has given to the world a legacy of exquisite canvases and a son to the Altar of God?

And how is this sad condition to be improved? From the fact that the study of the masters is confined almost exclusively to our excellent academies for young ladies, one would judge that such a study is exclusively for women and entirely outside the educational requirements of men. Obviously we all need its cultural influence.

"It is not necessary," says the eloquent Dominican Father Burke, "that our eyes should rest with pleasure upon some beautiful painting. Without that we could live. Without that we could have all that is necessary for our existence,—for our daily comfort. Yet, how refining, how invigorating, how pleasing to the eye, and to the soul to which the eye speaks, is the language that speaks to us, silently yet eloquently, as from the lips of a friend, from works of architecture or sculpture or painting."

WHAT OUR SCHOOLS CAN DO

OUR Catholic academies have done and are continuing to do very good work in this regard, but these efforts have not the desired far-reaching results. Very few children in our parish schools are able to attend these academies, and as a consequence the greater number of them go out into the world with no, or at most, very meager artistic appreciation. The parish school, then, is the place where the work must be done. But the curriculum of the parish school is already so crowded

that many of the more important branches do not receive the desired attention. Why add one more?

It is not necessary to wedge in another class period. A little care and discrimination in the selection of pictures for the classroom will produce results that are surprising. This selection of pictures for the walls of the classroom is a matter of more importance than most people realize. Too many classrooms are adorned, or more correctly, marred, by an indiscriminate choice of pictures. Let good prints of the masters take the place of the highly colored, theatrical conceptions of inferior modern artists. Care should also be taken in the selection of sacred pictures which are given from time to time to the children.

It is a practice in most art classes in our academies for each pupil to have an album in which prints of the masters are kept for immediate reference during lectures. This scrap-book idea would appeal most strongly to younger pupils. The prints could be secured by the teacher, and the pasting could be done at home. The academy lecture could be substituted by telling anecdotes from the lives of the masters. Such accounts as the one told of the model who served for Christ in da Vinci's "Last Supper," who afterwards, depraved by a riotous life, served for Judas, would prove most interesting to the children. They might be told of Fra Angelico, of whom it is said that he never undertook to paint Our Blessed Lady or Our Lord except on the day when he had received his Divine Lord in Holy Communion, and that he never painted the Infant Jesus or his Crucified Saviour except on his knees. The lives of the masters are replete with apt stories.

SIMPLE DESIRES

BIBLE history too could be made much simpler and more interesting by examining prints of the masters dealing with the Bible story at hand. The pictures would clear up many a difficulty that is apt to perplex young minds, and would thus save time by reducing the number of questions to be answered. The artistic volume, "Christ's Life in Pictures," recently edited by the Rev. G. A. Keith, S. J., will be found a great help in this regard. In his preface the author writes: "The easiest, the quickest and best way to know Our Lord is to see Him just as He was when He dwelt amongst us; to look at Him and study Him in beautiful pictures, and to read the story of His life in the simple yet sublime telling of it as we find it in the Bible."

Thus in various ways, without much extra time, the teacher can instil in the young minds of the children an appreciation of what is really theirs by inheritance as children of the mother and inspiration of art, the Catholic Church.

E. F. CARRIGAN, S. J.

SOCIOLOGY

"Fats and Capitalism"

THE antidote of a Spartacan revolution in Germany has been repeatedly proclaimed in recent days to be more fats for the stomachs of the Germans. Reporters have come back from Germany and have impressed upon us the need Germans have of food. They have sought to impress upon us, how necessary it is for the Allies, and especially for America, to send food to Germany to keep the Germans from favoring a Communistic revolution. This has been known for some time, however, for food ships have already landed in German ports. This is a curious commentary upon human nature and Herr Teufelsdröck, were he alive, would no doubt philosophize lengthily and disjointedly about it. It is a strange echo across the centuries of the cry of the Roman plebs: "*Panem et circenses.*" But the echo seems to be, "Bread or a revolt of the modern Spartacans."

When men come to believe in Communism, in any great numbers, it means that men have not enough "bread and circuses"

and are groping for both. It means more than a desire for a decent standard of living, for some recreation and access to the advantages of our modern life. It implies a revolt against the power, which they realize the owners exercise over their lives by the control of the access to their means of life, of the manner in which they are to spend their efforts, of the goods they are to produce, and finally, by the all but complete control of wages. The workers in our industrial regime feel themselves in subjection to the owners of industry, and many of them are hoping that they will, by common ownership, gain control of their work and their lives. Socialism is winning them, because it frankly recognizes and just as frankly declares that the conditions of work are intolerable, and because, too, it does not stop there, but goes on to tell men that they will work less than now and under better conditions, if they adopt Socialism; that they will control their work, and finally, that they will get enough for their work to live comfortably and share in the benefits which the long ages have stored up for all men. Socialism is dangerous because it picks out what is wrong with our industrial system, declares the source of the evil to be the concentration of productive wealth in the hands of the few, and then presents a concrete plan to right it all.

COMMUNISM AND DESPAIR

A REINCARNATED Herr Teufelsdröck, reading of the plan to circumvent Communistic revolution by the internal application of liberal doses of fats, would no doubt be moved to hammer out upon his typewriter the cynical remark that ideals are mere gaseous vapors belched forth from empty stomachs. Perhaps the cynical attitude in this affair is partly right. But that it is not wholly right, or at least is not right in all its implications, must be conceded. Fat meats may stop a revolution towards Communism, but they will not satisfy the subject workers in industry or impede them from striving to throw off the yoke they bear. Enough men who are starving and despairful may lead on to success a Communistic revolution. But unless they despair, they will not revolt for the precise reason that they are not fully satisfied that Communism is the cure of capitalism. They are not heart and soul for it, and only when their stomachs grow lean and their faces emaciated and their brains whirl with wild thoughts will they tear up our industrial system and the society based upon it, to make the superhuman attempt at Communism.

Fats may cure Communistic revolutions. But they will not cure the deep discontent men have over the capitalistic system and its material hardships and economic subjection, nor stop them from the endeavor to change it, root and branch. Humanity is an odd thing, and twentieth-century humanity in the capitalistic countries is odder and more complex still. But all recent signs point to the growing knowledge of what capitalism is, and the strengthening will to break it down.

WIDE PRIVATE OWNERSHIP

AN English writer, of great repute, thinks that the part of twentieth-century humanity living in England and working in the industrial system may knuckle under to capitalism, if sufficient *panem et circenses* are given it by the owners of industry. It is doubtful, especially when we realize the new turn English labor has recently taken. And however supine the average American labor leader lies before the juggernaut, and however grandiloquently incoherent he becomes when he tries to praise American capitalism and make Americanism and capitalism synonymous, this phase must pass. The workman and his leader cannot long remain blind to what American capitalism is. They cannot stand still forever, chained by the habits of thought of an era long past. They must soon realize that the growth of concentrated ownership and the decay of independent opportunity are accomplished facts with implications of astounding importance. The soil of America has become fruitful of intense Com-

munist agitation, because our soil, with all the good it has borne, has also let capitalism thrive. It can no longer be said that Socialism is a troublesome immigrant to be deported. We have let capitalism grow; and so we have Communistic agitation, and will continue to have it in even greater volume. That fact we must face. But with Communistic agitation there will come also an even wider realization of what capitalism is, and if then there is placed before the minds of American labor and the middle classes the gild organization of society based upon wide private ownership, there is hope that labor will throw from its back the yoke that is little better than slavery and that the middle classes will join in to worst the enemy that is sapping their strength. They will then tread manfully and bravely the road that lies before them. And this road of the future will end not in the servile State nor in Communism either, but paradoxically, as in the past, in the glory of the Middle Ages, in wide private ownership and the gild.

Fats may stop Spartacans. But fats will not stop the healthy discontent with capitalist subjection, nor the onward march of American labor to recover by the gild system the widespread independence of our frontier days, and the neighborliness and common action of which the frontier and capitalism know so little.

NEW DEMANDS OF LABOR

FATS are not stopping the movement strong in British labor these days, to obtain a degree of direct control of industry. Fats are not benumbing our railroad unions into a well-filled satisfaction with either capitalistic control or political control of the railroads. Fats seem even to have the effect of more intelligent desire. What is noticeable the world over these days is the desire workingmen have of gaining control of their work, while retaining still the older longing of a comfortable life, more open to the newer advantages. The earlier demands of labor dealt with wages and the material conditions of their work. But recently, it has taken a turn towards other demands, and other thoughts not yet completely articulate. We are all looking below the surface of things. Labor wants to know more about our industrial organization. Workingmen are growing toward the wish to possess responsibility. They know that they are cogs now, moved by men whom they do not influence, they want to control the cogs, but, in their world-old patience, they ask now for some influence only over the working of the cogs. Soon they will be asking to own the whole industrial system. They want a living wage, yes and more, for they want more of the comforts and advantages of life than any living wage hitherto reckoned would allow. But over and above this, they want to gain control of their work. Labor is coming to believe something, which, if we strain the meaning, can be expressed in the words of Christ: "Not by bread alone doth man live." Fats will not change this temper.

R. A. MCGOWAN.

NOTE AND COMMENT

Laetare Medal Conferred on George Logan Duval

CONFERRING the Laetare Medal on George Logan Duval, May 3, the Very Rev. John Cavanaugh, president of the University of Notre Dame, pointed out the special attention given to "the note of timeliness" in making choice of the annual winner of this highest honor within the gift of the University.

More than once the Laetare Medal has been conferred upon noble and generous men and women who, endowed with worldly riches, have recognized that they were the providential dispensers of wealth for the strengthening and development of religious education and charitable works. This year the University turns to you, Sir, as another model son of Holy Church who has felt the responsibilities of wealth and his own stewardship over the worldly goods entrusted to him by God. Never before in

our modern times has there been such general recognition of the power of wealth when wisely employed to promote and foster learning and goodness, but it may fairly be questioned whether Catholic men and women of great wealth have recognized and fully responded to this duty and this opportunity.

Because, out of comparatively modest wealth, you have set an example of distinguished generosity and devotedness to Catholic works of zeal and charity, because you have been in an unusual sense not only a toiler in the world, but a laborer in the vineyard of the Lord, because you have consecrated so large a part of your earthly possessions to the encouragement and assistance of religious men and women, themselves dedicating their whole lives to the cause of God; and, especially, because in pursuit of this high religious purpose you have kept specially in mind the glory and the beauty of the Immaculate Mother of God, therefore, the University of Notre Dame, dedicated to the love and honor and service of Mary Immaculate, selects you as the Laetare medalist for the Year of Our Lord Nineteen Hundred Nineteen, and prays that you may have length of days, the never-failing blessing of God and the increasing favor of our Immaculate Lady, the Mother of Fair Love and of Holy Hope.

Notre Dame University, it may here be noted, had but a few days previously celebrated the silver jubilee of the ordination to the priesthood of its president, on which occasion congratulatory messages were received from men of the highest prominence in the religious and civic life of the nation.

The Tragedy of the Railroads

THE failure of the railroads under government ownership is daily becoming more tragic. The loss for the last three months has been \$192,000,000. At this rate the total deficit for 1919 would be \$768,000,000. Mr. Walker D. Hines, Director General of Railroads, explains that at the present period business is unusually lighter than during the rest of the year, but he admits that it is impossible to say what the final results may be. In view of the fact that passenger rates have already been raised fifty per cent in many cases by Mr. McAdoo, and freight rates have ascended horizontally twenty-five per cent, the public is not likely to yield graciously to further increases in its traveling and transportation expenses, nor will it complacently accept the statement that nearly a billion dollars deficit is to be absorbed in added taxation. Mr. Burleson has been equally successful in demonstrating the efficiency of government ownership in the various branches of public service that have been entrusted to his care. The public will form its own opinion.

Ralph Adams Cram and Catholic Theology

THE report of the address delivered by Ralph Adams Cram, the well-known High Church Episcopalian, before a clerical Protestant audience at Philadelphia, has already made the rounds of the Catholic press. It apparently accepts everything the Church has to offer, and yet stops short at the one essential and logical step by which alone a reunion of Christianity can be effected; the recognition of the obedience due to the Vicar of Christ to whom alone the keys have been committed, on whom alone the visible headship of the Church has been conferred. To accept wholly, as Mr. Cram does, the "Catholic theology, sacramental philosophy and Catholic orders," and yet to reject the words of Christ establishing His Church on the Rock that is Peter, is to remain outside of the one and only Fold as completely as if every tenet of the Gospel were denied. A man is a Catholic or not, accordingly as he accepts or rejects the authority of the lawful successor of Peter. Mr. Cram says:

The Anglican Church has not had a right philosophy since the Reformation. The only way that the world can be saved at this critical juncture is through accepting a right religion and a right philosophy. It is necessary to have a right philosophy before any efforts of reunion are begun.

The first step for the Episcopal Church to take is to accept the strict Catholic doctrine of seven Sacraments, with the Mass, both as a Communion and a sacrifice, as the chief controlling doctrine of all, and transubstantiation as the only perfect and sufficient expression of the nature of the Presence of Christ in the holy Sacrament of the altar. The only thing that can save us from a new period of the dark ages is a reunion of Christianity on the basis of Catholic theology, sacramental philosophy and Catholic orders.

By the "dark ages" Mr. Cram evidently does not mean the Middle Ages, but the days of darkness that preceded them, for no one has a deeper appreciation of the worth and beauty of the days of Catholic faith than he. We trust that he will yet take the one step that is required to make his own faith perfect and his logic flawless and conclusive.

The U. S. S. C. Then and Now

AS an illustration of "high finance" allusion is made by Mr. Payne in the *Saturday Evening Post* to the question recently discussed in AMERICA regarding the United States Steel Corporation. Referring to the consolidation, in 1901, of the various steel trusts into the super-trust known as the U. S. S. C., the writer briefly states, in round numbers, that the tangible property of the Corporation was valued at \$700,000,000, "against which the promoters, first and last, issued \$400,000,000 of bonds, \$500,000,000 of seven per cent preferred stock and \$500,000,000 of common stock." After explaining the anticipated benefits which prompted the merger Mr. Payne continues:

The promoters did not expect that any of these benefits should accrue to the labor employed, nor, in a general way, to the ordinary run-of-mill investors of capital. On the contrary the promoters expected to skim off, realize and pocket a great part of these anticipated benefits themselves. The active promoters of these various consolidations, culminating in the Steel Corporation, comprised relatively speaking but a handful of men—more or less the same handful figuring in the various steps of consolidation.

In the first place, following them through the various consolidations, they handed over to themselves in payment for their services in bringing about the consolidations and for advancing \$28,000,000 cash for expenses and other preliminary purposes, stock of the par value, and present market value, of \$150,000,000 in round numbers. That went to the ground-floor and smallest group of insiders. After their claims were thus satisfied, there remained \$400,000,000 of common stock which represented no tangible contribution to the consolidated company but only anticipation of the benefits to accrue in the future. That \$400,000,000 was distributed, first and last, to a somewhat larger but still relatively very small group of second-story insiders or underwriters.

After these two groups were satisfied there remained for labor just its market price as a commodity and for the ordinary run-of-mill investor there remained the opportunity of putting in his capital at five to seven per cent. The lion's share of the benefits to accrue was skimmed off, realized and pocketed by relatively few people. One effect was concentration of wealth; a rather picturesque crop of steel millionaires.

In the opinion of Mr. Payne, this merger was in reality a benefit for the industry and for the country, but it was decidedly not for the common good that a comparatively small group should receive for their remuneration "the rake-off of more than half a billion dollars which, as the books now stand, is what they got." The question will naturally be asked whether the original amount of "water," representing \$508,000,000 of common stock, still remains in the U. S. S. C. This cannot be said, since hundreds of millions of surplus earnings have since then been sunk back into the properties of the company so that its common stock has been selling round par and its tangible property may now well be worth its full capitalization. But the dividends on the entire original issue of \$508,000,000 of common stock continue to be paid on no investment of money, though present holders may in many instances have paid for it.